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THE FLOWER OF GALA WATER.

A LOVE STORY.

BY AMELIA E. BARR.

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CHAPTER III.

CONTINUED.

Mowbray held his cup of happiness with a steadier hand, but he was strangely affected by this sweet realization of man's capacity for a double existence. For it was not so much that something new had come into his life, as that something old had been returned to him. To love Katherine had been no fresh lesson, he had found her at first sight familiar, and the sense of "right" in her had been the earliest sensation she inspired. Admiration and affection followed quickly, but he was certain the instant and primal idea of his heart was that Katherine was anteriorly and inalienably his own.

As he stood feeling the sweetness of this right, but not in any way reasoning about it, Jessy came to him.

"Where is Katherine?" she asked.

"Katherine is mine forever," he answered, with the selfish irrelevancy of a lover; for he had not yet been able to consider Katherine with reference to any person but himself.

"Well, then, Mr. Mowbray," said Jessy, "if you will take my advice you will go and talk to Katherine's mother. She is just a most important person. This is your happy hour, and all its work will prosper. So do make the most of it."

He went instantly to Mrs. Brathous. She had just put on a new summer gown in which she looked exceedingly pretty, and she was in that charming mood which a consciousness of good looks inspires, so Mowbray was one of those welcome guests who come just at the right time. She made him feel that she was glad to see him, and he lost not one moment in opening his case. He seated himself before her, he spoke with an eloquence which denied all objections. In a few minutes he was holding her hands and begging her to stand by Katherine and himself against all odds. She was not very easily persuaded. She said Wintoun had looked on Katherine as his future wife for nearly seven years. She spoke of the laird's long, unwavering determination to unite the two estates by marriage. "For Wintoun is his heir," he said; "and Wintoun-Lands and Levens-hope are no mean patrimony." Mowbray, however, had words far beyond her reasoning; he talked with his heart and she grew silent. Then the tears came to her eyes, and at this favorable moment Katherine entered the room and slipped within her mother's arm and laid her cheek against her mother's breast.

Mrs. Brathous stooped and kissed her child. She had begun then to give way. And Mowbray's adoration of the girl, his impetuosity, his determination to take no denial were irresistible. Undeniably, also, his beauty was a silent but powerful friend, for there seemed to be a natural fitness in the marriage of a man so handsome with a girl so lovely. At the last Mrs. Brathous surrendered unconditionally.

"It is enough, Mr. Mowbray," she said. "I am convinced by something beyond your words. My heart is with Katherine and you, and I will stand by you to the very uttermost."

Then she stooped forward and kissed the young man, and with the kiss took him fully to her love and trust.

After this happy settlement the day went to Love and to Love only, for the generous mother set the whole household to this happy key. While Katherine and Mowbray wandered in the warm, sunny garden, she talked to Jessy of the affair, and with her own hands spread a more festive table.

"We will let them have a day or two in paradise, Jessy," she said, "for the laird will pull their happiness to pieces as soon as he finds it out."

But for once good fortune was on the side of the lovers. Wintoun went that very day to Dalkeith to assist at the marriage of a friend, happily oblivious of the stranger who was intermeddling with his own marriage. And the theological tray was more fierce than had been anticipated, before each man of both clergy and laity had said their say, four days had elapsed, and even then return was a little delayed, because the laird had bought a Galloway pony, and a man was to hire who could ride it over to Levens-hope.

So it was Saturday evening when Brathous reached home. He found nothing to mar the peace and happiness of his return. Mowbray had gone to Edinburgh to buy a betrothal ring, and he intended to remain over the Sabbath in the capital. Wintoun was sitting with Mrs. Brathous and Katherine, giving them an account of the wedding he had attended, and all three were in a pleasant mood of welcome. Besides which he had the further satisfaction of feeling that throughout all his journey he had seen no finer house, no more beautiful garden, no more admirably kept farm than his own.

Sabbath increased his self satisfaction. The elders who had not been to Selkirk were anxious to show him attention. He put a larger offering than usual in the plate and was glad he had done so when the minister made an allusion to the Selkirk meeting, and to their delegate, the laird of Levens-hope. Then on Monday the very thing happened which Katherine had foreseen. Mowbray came to Levens-hope with the minister. They met the laird in the garden, and Mowbray was welcomed effusively and carried off to the stalls to see the prize ox and the Galloway pony. His stay to dinner was taken as a matter of course, and when Wintoun arrived Mrs. Brathous said "she thought the three young people ought to walk over to the manse for Jessy; and then they could dance a reel or two before supper."

Brathous did not like the proposition, but having been so good natured hitherto, he could not at once summon the necessary courage to contest either the walk or the dance. So Katherine with Mowbray and Wintoun went over the hill for Jessy, and the result was precisely what Mrs. Brathous anticipated. Jessy and Wintoun walked back together, and Katherine and Mowbray turned aside into Leven's wood to see a saint's well; and then they were delayed by the roaring of a notoriously ill-tempered bull, and could not reach home until an hour later. For it had taken Mowbray all that extra time to put the circle of gems on Katherine's finger and to tell her how long and dreary the two days had been without her.

The delay, however, made the laird very angry, and he did not scruple to scold Katherine for it on their return.

"It was not Miss Janfarie's fault, sir," said Mowbray, quickly. "Pray do not let your position as host make you blame her in my place. I asked Miss Janfarie to show me the saint's well. Neither of us is responsible for the furious animal you keep so near the high road and which—permit me to say—ought to be shot at once."

"Mr. Mowbray, you are a stranger. Your ignorance is your apology. As for Katherine," and he looked angrily at the girl, who stood with her hand in Mowbray's hand.

Then Mowbray's dark eyes flashed a defiance which the laird might have quarreled with had not Mrs. Brathous stepped between them with her charming smile.

"Mr. Mowbray, Jessy is waiting for you. Katherine, you are keeping Jamie waiting for you. And if you want me to play a reel, you had better make haste while I am in the mood of being good-natured."

In spite of her merry words there was a look of anxious depreciation in her eyes, which both Katherine and Mowbray respected; for she knew with what magical speed suspicion grew in her husband's mind. He had entertained a doubt, twenty would follow, and confirmation be close behind. So, though her fingers struck out the tingling notes, and the light feet of the happy dancers kept time to them, he could see the anger and dislike brooding in her lord's white, weak face; and when he suddenly left the parlor she knew he had gone to his room to walk himself into a passion of injury.

It was upon her the storm fell.

"Near midnight!" he cried, when she entered the room. "A woman of your age daffing and dancing till such hours!"

"Why not scold the minister? He thought no harm of our daffing and dancing."

"He didn't? Then he ought to have a reprimand, and I will see that he gets it."

"I hope you will."

There was a threat in the "hope" which was provoking. The laird felt it.

"Katherine behaved herself shamefully," he continued.

"Let Katherine alone."

"I am her guardian."

"I am her mother."

"She was making love to that Englishman. I saw her."

"You know nothing about love-making."

"Madam! Madam! I—I—."

"You know nothing about it."

"I made love to you."

"You did not. If you had even tried I never could have married you. You asked me to be your wife, and I agreed because you were Katherine's guardian—and I thought it would be as well to watch the guardian."

"This is intolerable! I will not bear it!"

"It is the truth. You will have to bear it!"

"It is shameful! shameful! shameful!"

"It is shameful that I have to invent excuses for your bad manners every time we have company. There is no use in storming and sniffling, Alexander."

"I will not have that Englishman in my house again. I will order the servants to turn him out."

"You, yourself, asked him here. If any servant turns him out, I will turn the servant after him."

"A nobody! An adventurer! Oh, dear me! What a dreadful thing it is to have a kind heart!"

"You said he was the son of your friend. If he is an adventurer, what right had you to introduce him to my daughter? A fine guardian you are! And as for your kind heart, no one ever was or ever will be better of it. There is no use sitting up to worry, Alexander. Every one in the house is asleep, and I am going to my room."

"I shall not sleep a wink. How can I with such goings on?"

"You will sleep well enough. You might as well. Nobody will mind your staying awake. Good night."

But in reality he did not sleep much. He was troubled and anxious about Wintoun's affairs, for after Alexander Brathous he regarded James Wintoun as the person of most importance. He was his sister's son, and he looked upon him as his own heir. His marriage with Katherine was the pet project of his life, for Katherine's money would redeem Wintoun Lands, and besides this Katherine was one of the best blood of the Border, and her beauty and grace would be suitable adjuncts to his nephew's wife. But there was another reason, and though he seldom gave it, even to himself, it was by far the most potent. He had taken the mortgage on Wintoun with some of Katherine's money, and if Katherine did not marry James Wintoun, he would have to replace this money when she came of age and demanded an account of his stewardship. And the sum was so large that he could only do so by mortgaging Levens-hope.

It seemed to him, therefore, that it would be an outrageous wrong to permit the fancy of a mere girl to make void all his plans to save two fine estates—estates which in the end were to belong to her and her children. In fact, he told himself that he would not and could not have any interference with a project so wise and so beneficial for all concerned.

Nobody had interfered yet, but he had a suspicion of Mowbray, for he noticed that the Katherine who talked and danced with Wintoun was but a colorless shadow of the Katherine who talked and danced with Mowbray. She was sweet and polite and cold to Wintoun. She was light and life and flame with Mowbray. If Wintoun said loving words to her they fell like snowflakes on steel; if Mowbray but looked at her, his looks lightened her eyes and burned in her cheeks and flashed in smiles her answer. The lovers had told themselves they would be very careful. They had promised Mrs. Brathous to door to say nothing which would rouse the laird's suspicions; but who ever succeeded in hiding love? And whenever were two lovers even ordinarily careful?

The next morning a circumstance occurred which confirmed the anger of Brathous and brought about a crisis before any one was prepared for it. The laird got into a conversation with his upper gardener and incidentally heard from him that Mr. Mowbray had been a constant visitor during the week he was from home. Immediately he sent a peremptory message to Mrs. Brathous. When it referred her to the seldom used large drawing room she knew her husband had something particular to say, and that he contemplated saying it with all the emphasis he desired. And she divined at once the subject to be discussed.

The temper in which she intended to discuss it was shown by the circumstance that she did not hurry herself in the least to answer the imperative order. Indeed she delayed so long that she found the laird standing impatiently at the open door of the room, waiting for her approach.

"Why did you not come quicker, Helen?" he asked fretfully. "I sent you word that you were to come in haste."

"I was talking to Katherine. Why did you send for me to come to this room? Are you, really, at last, going to get a new carpet for it?"

"No, madam. I am not likely to have money for new carpets. I chose this room because I want to talk seriously to you, and I did not wish the servants to hear us."

She smiled scornfully and asked:

"Pray what is the matter now?"

"Matter enough! Why did you deceive me? Were you not afraid to ask a stranger to my house while I was away? One would think you were trying to make a match between him and Katherine—trying to ruin both Katherine and ourselves. I am almost beside myself with the news."

"Will you remember that it was you who asked him when he was here last? You who said, with your usual ridiculous effusiveness: 'On your return, Mr. Mowbray, come and stay a few days—a few weeks if you wish?' If I had not made him welcome, you would have asked: 'How I dared to turn one of your invited guests away?' As for match-making—that, it seems, is your business. You have been planning to marry my poor little girl ever since you had the charge of her. It has been your one care for Katherine."

"I was planning for her happiness and welfare."

"You were planning for your nephew. Jamie Wintoun may not appear to Katherine all that he appears to you. Katherine may not think it a supreme joy and privilege to use her money to release Wintoun-Lands—to spare your mortgaging Levens-hope! Oh, I have reached the bottom of your plans, Brathous! Understand this, I will not have my daughter sacrificed to carry out your plans."

"I understand that you are going to ruin your daughter. Who is this Mowbray?"

"You said you knew him."

"I will tell Doctor Telfair what I think of him. I will that! What right has he to bring the fellow to my home?"

"Speak to Doctor Telfair, by all means! He will tell you some truths you ought to hear. Quarreling with you is no pleasure. I shall not continue it."

"I am going to send Katherine back to school."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

In the consumption of sugar the United States leads the world.

WHITE SUPREMACY PERMANENT.

To Be Made So By the Adoption of The Constitutional Amendment.

ALL WHITE MEN CAN VOTE

A Conversation Between a Business Man and a Farmer--No Property Qualification.

Farmer: "I thought I would drop in and have a talk with you about the amendment. I know you always keep posted upon public questions, and the people in my neighborhood are becoming very much interested in the amendment. I haven't been able to get a copy of the amendment, and about all we know about it in our neighborhood is what we have read in the papers and heard from others."

Business Man: "I am very glad you called. It is true I generally study public questions, especially those which I consider important to the public welfare. I am like you, very much interested in the amendment, and I have studied it closely. I have a few copies of it, also some literature concerning it, which I will gladly divide with you. I see from the papers that Mr. Simmons, the chairman of our party, is beginning to send out some campaign literature, and I suggest that you and your neighbors who wish information upon the amendment write to him."

Farmer: "I thank you for the copy of the amendment. I will study it carefully, but there are some questions I would like to ask you about. In the first place, I want to know if it is true that it will disfranchise the negro."

Business Man: "One of the chief objects of the amendment is to eliminate the ignorant and irresponsible negro vote of the State. It will not disfranchise the entire negro vote, but it will disfranchise every negro who cannot read and write any section of the constitution in the English language. If you will read section 4 of the amendment you will see this is true. There are in North Carolina certainly between 80,000 and 90,000 negroes who will be disfranchised."

Farmer: "You say those negroes who cannot read and write will be disfranchised under section 4 of the amendment. Will any uneducated negro be able to qualify himself to vote under section 5?"

Business man: "Yes, a few hundred perhaps. Those negroes who are descended from the old free negroes, who were allowed to vote prior to the Constitution of 1835, and those who have come into this State from States where negroes could vote before 1867 can vote under this section. I think possibly there are in the State between 500 and 1,000 negroes who may qualify themselves under the provision of the 5th section."

Farmer: "So much so good. Now let me ask you another question. Will the amendment disfranchise the uneducated white man?"

Business Man: "Why certainly not. The object of the 5th section, commonly called the Grandfather clause, is to forever protect the entire body of the uneducated white vote of the State in their right to vote. If you will study that section you will see it accomplished this purpose fully and admirably. You will see that it gives every white man who registers any time before December 1st, 1908, the right to vote for all time thereafter, though he may never know a letter in the book or become able to write a word. Now let me read this section to you. You can study it further when you go home."

Farmer: "As the law now stands no one is allowed to vote unless he is registered. I understand that will be so also under the amendment. Now will you please explain to me the process of registration under the amendment?"

Business Man: "I will do so with pleasure. A white man who can read and write can register, either under the 4th or 5th section. A white man who cannot read or write can register under the 5th section, because either he or his ancestors were entitled to vote sometime prior to January, 1867. But as negroes were not allowed to vote, except a few negroes, as before explained, before January 1, 1867 a negro can only register under the 4th section by showing to the satisfaction of the registrar that he can read and write."

Farmer: "That is all right and suits me to a dot. But let me ask you will an uneducated white man, if the amendment passes, have to produce witnesses before the registrar to show his right to register under section 5?"

Business Man: "Oh, no, certainly not. As all white people could vote before 1867 his white skin will prove his right to register under that section, unless he is a foreigner."

Farmer: "Will all the educated whites register under section 4 and all the uneducated whites register under section 5 if the amendment is adopted?"

Business Man: "No, not necessarily. Indeed it is expected that as many educated whites will register under the 5th section as under the 4th section. In Louisiana where they have an amendment almost identical with ours, I am told most of the educated whites registered under the 5th section. Whenever a white man registers under the 5th section his name is placed upon the permanent registration roll, and he is forever thereafter permitted to register from that roll. Let me read you the provisions of the amendment with reference to registration."

Farmer: "I see. It is very simple and it is perfectly plain to me now that the effect of the amendment will be to disfranchise the ignorant negro vote without disfranchising the uneducated white men of the State."

Business Man: "You have hit the nail on the head. That will be the exact effect of the amendment. It is a carefully prepared constitutional plan for getting rid of the ignorant and irresponsible negro vote without depriving any white man of his vote."

Farmer: "Why that's just what we white people want, isn't it?"

Business Man: "That is certainly what all white men who respect their race and families and love and honor their State ought to want. It will be a good thing for the negro also, because he has always used the ballot recklessly and against the best interest of his race as well as the best interests of the State. I have studied this question thoroughly, and I am satisfied that this amendment is the only [illegible] [illegible] remedy and the [illegible] permanent remedy against the possible recurrence of negro rule in North Carolina such as we had from 1895 until 1897."

Farmer: "Well, well, well, just to think what lies those Republican [illegible] the revenue officers have been telling the people. Had you heard before that they were telling that the amendment would disfranchise the uneducated whites?"

Business Man: "Oh, yes, they have been trying to deceive the people by telling that as well as many other falsehoods. The mean white leaders of the negroes see the offices that the negroes have given them about to be taken from them and they are desperate. These fellows are opposed to the amendment, because they know it will disfranchise the ignorant negro without disfranchising uneducated whites. Their anxiety is all on account of the negro vote, not the white vote."

Farmer: "By the way, I want to ask you right here, is there any property qualification in the amendment? One of those Revenue fellows, I believe he said he was a deputy marshal, the how he talked and moved around mighty pompously, was down my way lately telling it around that the amendment provided that no one could vote unless he was worth $300 and the man present said he had seen that statement in a Republican paper. How about this?"

Business Man: "Yes, I understand the opponents of the amendment have been circulating that falsehood broadcast. Of course they know if the people should read the literature the Democrats will send out, or go to hear Democratic speakers, they will learn that all such rumors are false. The idea of the unscrupulous fellows who are circulating these bold falsehoods is to try and get the poor and uneducated white people so prejudiced and biased against the amendment that they will not read this Democratic literature or go to hear Democratic speakers. Now let me read the whole amendment to you. There is not, as you see, one word in it that requires a property qualification, and a penniless white man has the same right to vote under it that the richest man in the State has."

Farmer: "Well, that beats me. [illegible] one of the [illegible]. It was [illegible] [illegible] wasn't it?"

Business Man: "Yes, it was a pretty reckless attempt to [illegible] the people. But I am very much interested in what you have told me about the misrepresentations these Revenue officers are making to the people. Do you remember anything else they are telling your people, for they all say about the same thing?"

Farmer: "You are right, they do all say about the same thing, and it looks like they were talking under orders. Since I come to think of it, I wonder what that deputy marshal was doing on our way any how. He didn't arrest anybody or serve any papers. Wonder if he wasn't sent out to talk down the amendment? Well yes, he did say something else besides what I have told you, and I have heard other Republicans say the same thing. He said that what he called the 'grandfather section' of the amendment wasn't any account any how, and that the State Republican Supreme Court would knock it out of the amendment, and even if the Supreme Court of the United States put it back and sustained the whole thing, the uneducated whites could only vote under the amendment until 1908, and if they did not learn to read and write by that time they would have to stop voting."

Business Man: "Stop right there a minute if you please, for I will only take a minute to dispose of that little Republican yarn. I have heard it told and told to my [illegible] [illegible] before. Now let me read you the section of the amendment on this subject again. That is all that is necessary to clinch it. You see from the reading that every voter who shall register under this section any time before December, 1908, shall for ever thereafter be entitled to vote at all elections unless he become thereafter disqualified by crime."

Farmer: "Why that's as plain as the nose on your face. Some of us told him we had heard that what he was saying applied only to boys who became of age after 1908. And we were right, too, weren't we?"

Business Man: "You certainly were right, as the mere reading of the amendment shows. The amendment protects the suffrage of every white man who registers in any election before December, 1908. If he don't register it is his own fault. It gives the boy who will become of age after that nine years in which to learn to read and to enable these twelve year old boys to learn to read the Democratic party pledges itself to give them from now on better school advantages than ever before. With these increasing advantages and the great incentive to the boys to learn illiteracy ought to disappear among our boys of the next generation. If the fathers of our poor boys will think about this matter they will see in this provision great advantage [illegible] disadvantage to their [illegible]. Their girls too will get the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to attend [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] from [illegible] [illegible]."

Farmer: [illegible] another thing the Republicans, especially the Federal officeholders [illegible] that I want to inquire of you about. They most always have an [illegible] [illegible] printed at Asheville [illegible] they call it the [illegible] [illegible] pretend is a [illegible] paper [illegible] against the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] from [illegible] [illegible] here [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] is a Democratic paper."

Business Man: "Well, I am very glad you have called my attention to this matter. It is a scheme of palming off the Asheville Gazette as a Democratic paper, one of the lowest and [illegible] attempted to be [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] all over the State, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the truth. This paper is published by a man who has recently moved into this State. When he first bought the paper he published it as a Democratic paper and strongly advocated the amendment. A few months ago he sold the paper to the Republicans and it is now the organ of that party in the State—every thing in it is prepared by the Republican leaders, but it pretends to be Democratic in order to better deceive the people. It is a well-organized duplicity, it was a part of the [illegible] [illegible] sale. You can see that this whole scheme is disreputable and a [illegible] and it [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] to have been talking about illustrate the desperation of these Republican white leaders in their eagerness to [illegible] negro rule [illegible]."

Farmer: "There is one [illegible] thing the Republicans are telling the uneducated white men which I wish to ask you about. They argue [illegible] the [illegible] will hold the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the amendment [illegible] and [illegible] it will [illegible] the Grandfather clause [illegible] and [illegible] it out [illegible] [illegible] then [illegible] only white [illegible] read and write will [illegible]. I want to ask you if there is any danger of this being done."

Business Man: "Before I answer this question let me ask you a question. Upon what ground do they claim that the 5th section is unconstitutional?"

Farmer: "Why, they say it is unconstitutional because they say it violates the 15th amendment to the Constitution of the United States which they claim prohibits any State from denying the negro the right to vote on account of race, color, or previous condition of slavery."

Business Man: "Exactly, but now listen: Now there is nothing in the Constitution of the United States which takes away from the State the right to say who shall and who shall not vote. Neither is there any provision in that Constitution which says a State shall allow all white men or all negroes to vote. The Supreme Court of the United States has decided over and over again that the States have a right to regulate the question of suffrage as they see fit. The only thing in the United States constitution which in any way restricts the right of the State to regulate the subject is found in the 15th amendment. That does not allow a State to deny the right of a negro to vote on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude. Now let us again examine the 5th section. Read it over carefully. Read the section carefully. Now tell me is there one single provision in it which denies to the negro [illegible] the right to vote? On the [illegible] it is not clear that it [illegible] [illegible] clause but an enabling clause [illegible] it denies nobody the [illegible] [illegible] who otherwise is entitled [illegible] [illegible] simply enables some to vote who otherwise might not be entitled to vote.

(To be concluded next week.)

HAS STIRRED UP A HORNETS' NEST

Butler's Speech Has Proved a Political Boomerang.

Regular Raleigh Correspondence.

Senator Butler has stirred up a hornets' nest by his speech before the Populist State committee, which [illegible] with great sweetness and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] driving out of the State [illegible] Democrats [illegible] in their work in favor of the constitutional amendment and of white supremacy. The [illegible] who took down the [illegible] of the speech [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] which at this late day the Senator attempts to gain[illegible].

The meeting of the committee [illegible] [illegible] attended by only [illegible] of its members. This handful undertook to do a great deal by adopting resolutions [illegible] the amendment and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. This action was inspired by [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. The Progressive Farmer [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the nine members [illegible] Populists who stood for these [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a paper which [illegible] [illegible] a protest [illegible] [illegible] rule [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] regarding [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the "as single [illegible] committee. The small Butler [illegible] the large Republican [illegible]. The [illegible] [illegible] From what the Progressive Farmer says one may easily guess that the session of the Populist State committee will be [illegible] [illegible]. The true Populists [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] that they will carry the [illegible] party solidly [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] and white supremacy.

Senator John W. Daniel, of Virginia, [illegible] North Carolina Democrats will probably make several speeches in this State during the campaign. He has tendered his services to Chairman Simmons.

It is probable that there will be [illegible] [illegible] conventions will this year be held in the Academy of Music. The Republicans have already secured it.

As yet the Republicans have not [illegible] headquarters here. It was said they would occupy the quarters in [illegible] by Democratic Chairman [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] such great work [illegible] [illegible] but the announcement was premature. The Democrats may reoccupy the same quarters.

Populist Committeeman Ayer, who acted as secretary of the late session of the committee and who drew up the resolutions declaring against the amendment, says it is the Populist plan to eliminate the negro entirely from the race on the amendment. This attitude was inspired by the Republicans, for the latter are offering to [illegible] [illegible] not a dozen negroes will be in the Republican convention; that they will be powerfully urged not to register or vote. But the Republicans are [illegible] [illegible] trouble, they say. George H. White, the only negro Congressman, is a candidate for reelection, and says he intends to bring out the negro vote in the Second, or "black" district. White is a thorn in the side of the white Republicans, who are trying to get the negro to keep in the background this year. All will remember the kreel story on Revenue Officer George W. Blackwall, who asked the mouth-piece, who was a little too prominent, to "move a little further back from the road." This is what the Republicans want to do with the negro: not to really eliminate him but to pretend to do so. It is a very shallow trick.

Senator Butler's weekly paper here, the Caucasian, is to be made a morning daily and the "anti-amendment" organ. Of course Republican capital will back it, as it backs the Asheville Gazette. The fusion machine wanted to have the Gazette moved to Raleigh. This could not be arranged and hence Senator Butler's paper is taken up to be the organ at the capital and for the east, the Gazette being the same in the west. Then there are to be three anti-amendment weeklies published last of the year. The national Republican committee will provide liberally to meet all these expenses. But then in 1898 it set apart $50,000 for use in carrying North Carolina.

A MINK TAIL SECRET.

How Household Pets Are Made to Supply the Demands of Fashion.

"I am in the mink tail business," said a man to a Hide and Leather reporter, "and it's wonderful how the business is growing."

One good tail deserves another, and I listened eagerly so as to get a story for Hide and Leather readers.

"Yessir. Big demand this year for tails of mink and marten. Women just crazy for them. Makes kind o' trimmins that are fashionable, and that's what we want."

I pondered. Mink and marten tails for fur trimmings! Heavens! I thought of the number of tails for one garment. And it meant a little beast for each tail. Terrible slaughter of the innocents.

My friend noted my surprise. Nor did I conceal my sentiments.

He laughed prodigiously. "Did I say that every tail represented a mink? Not much. Nor a marten, either. No, sir. Not enough of these little animals to begin to supply the demand for tails, b'gosh. And the business is booming."

Mystified and speechless, I submitted to being taken into the mink tail factory. On the floors were dressed dogskins. Plenty of them. "But where were the minks?" I asked.

"There!" was the reply, and a long, [illegible] finger was pointing at the dogskins.

"You see," explained my guide, "there are not enough mink tails to supply the people at moderate price, so we take unused dogskins and cut them into strips. We fold these in and out, and when the manipulation is completed we color the lower parts of the strips and there you have as nice mink or marten tails as you ever saw. They sell at 10 cents apiece, in packages of a dozen each."

"Of course," said this fountain of truth and candor, "we don't tell our customers that we find the dogs more valuable after death than before, because the tails look very nice, and as long as they are properly christened and bought and sold as mink tails, why should we bring grief to happy people by destroying fond hopes?"

Why, indeed, thought I.

His Object.

England persists in the contention that its motives are entirely philanthropic.

"Well," answered Oom Paul, severely, "so are mine. I want to see if I can't get up a good Rhodes movement in South Africa."—Washington Star.

Hay Sent to Africa.

Baled hay is going from Brooklyn to the Philippines and South Africa in wholesale quantities. Cavalry horses [illegible] by hay, and it is natural for England as well as the United States army, to [illegible] to Americans for the fodder. A [illegible] of [illegible] was sent from [illegible] [illegible] to South Africa Thursday, [illegible] [illegible] to South Africa to-morrow [illegible] [illegible] Brooklyn concern has 150 men at [illegible] [illegible] to catch up with orders. The [illegible] [illegible] bales has been found [illegible] [illegible] on the march, and [illegible] [illegible] Brooklyn has [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] compressing the amount of hay in an ordinary bale into a cylindrical [illegible] [illegible] the size of a regulation bale. The new bales are about [illegible] [illegible] and are so [illegible] that they can be transported on mule back without difficulty. The regulation daily feed of hay for a horse in the United States army is 14 pounds, so that an animal can carry enough fodder [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] weeks. Hay is considered [illegible] [illegible] carriers to be [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] because it so easily spoils, but by the new process it is found possible to squeeze all the moisture out of the bale and there is no danger of the hay deteriorating, even when kept for a long time. An experiment was made lately with a bale of hay squeezed in the great press, and it withstood a [illegible] test for 72 hours before it was consumed. The British War Office requires that the emergency store of hay at Woolwich shall be baled so that it will last [illegible] years without losing [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. This the new process [illegible] and [illegible] consequence is that the British Government is sending orders for all that the Brooklyn firm can supply and more, too.