

Facts, Fables and Fancies.

IDA INGOLD MASTEN.

Result of Impression.
In looking over some themes I have in my possession which I wrote when doing composition work in the University I found this little story that seemed to me perhaps worthy of being offered for publication:

The Story.
One bright spring morning I walked out to enjoy the freshness of the morning air. I had a few little errands to do up town, the significance of which would not have caused me to go but for the desire I maintained for being out. The birds were singing—perhaps I should say, the English Sparrows were chattering—in all the trees. For, although the city council had offered a reward to the boys for every English Sparrow killed, they continued to increase and still chattered on. However, the sound of them brought to me the pleasant sensation of hearing again an almost forgotten melody. These tiny throats had been silent for a long time. Winter had brought down its stern hand and the birds had fled. The sun and the wind had been too strong for them. I had seen a few on the hills and in the woods, but they were so few that I could not call them a flock.

The Impression.
I went about the few errands that I had in mind, with an effort to dispel the unpleasant feeling that had come over me. I learned from a shop-keeper that the dead man was one who had lived an unworthy life. So bad that he had been deserted by relatives and friends, even by his children whom he had used very wrongly upon their efforts to reform him. He had died in the night, friendless and alone, in that dark, desolate, old hall of a house and had been hounded by police men that morning.

The Result.
One evening after supper I had to go out to make some purchases. On my way to the business part of town I did not pass the lonely old house where the man had died. Perhaps I had gone out of my way to walk and talk with some friend as daylight was still showing and the evening was pleasant. I tarried longer in the stores than I had expected to do and when I finally prepared to go home the streets were quite dark. I don't know why the street lights were not burning, but there had been some repairs going on at the light plant lately, probably that would account for the dark streets. I was alone, and to go home alone I must pass the old empty house in which the man had died a few nights ago. It seemed to me not to be a direct road, but I must go, and I started out.

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will confess that I entertained some misgivings in regard to being near that house alone and in the dark. However, the second thought that came to me was that to go out of my way to keep from passing the house would be yielding decidedly to groundless fear, and this I would not do. I would compel myself to pass that house alone and in the dark. I had to go home and it stood on the way; I took myself firmly in hand and started.
After walking a block or two I drew near the house. I straightened myself up rigidly, took in a full breath, shut my lips firmly and set my eyes straight ahead. I wanted very much to run, but determined to pass the house deliberately, and I was also determined that I would not at least appear to see what I felt sure was standing in the shadowy doorway. But, try as I would, I could not resist the desire to see if there really was a ghost in the doorway. And so I turned my eyes without turning my head, and—there it was! I turned cold with fright, and I felt as if my feet were being pulled out from under me. I felt as if my heart would stop beating, and I felt as if I were being pulled into a cold, dark, and evil world.

Conclusion.
The mind, made susceptible by the shock of a sudden and gruesome occurrence, had been led off into violent and extremely unpleasant experience. This serves to prove that all the influences at work in the world are mighty, and that the bad are quite as powerful as the good. These influences, various in character are shaping the souls of men. For, what is the soul but the subjective mind, and from what source does the subjective mind get its bearings if not from the objective world through the rational body? At this point it is well to be reminded that we can temper the suggestions received by our inner consciousness by the working of our will. It is expedient to remember also that it is by the honest and judicious use of all our personal gifts of power that we can come out conquerors in the end.

IDA INGOLD MASTEN.
Willie wailed and Winnie wheezed, while wintery winds whined weirdly. Willie wriggled while Winnie wheezed wretchedly. Wholen whippers, winter winds work whimsies. Whenever we write "Don Kennedy's Laxative Cough Syrup." Nothing else so good. Sold by Standard Drug Co. and Asheville Drug Co.

NOTICE!
Having qualified as Administrator on the estate of H. C. Presnell, deceased, before W. C. Hammond, Clerk of the Superior Court of Randolph county, I shall sell at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash, on the premises, on the 28th day of January 1907, the following personal property, to-wit: Household and kitchen furniture, and other articles too tedious to mention.
All persons having claims against said estate are notified to present them to the undersigned duly verified, on or before the 23rd day of January 1907, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery, and all persons owing said estate will come forward and make immediate settlement.
This 23rd day of January 1907.
M. J. Presnell, Admr.

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O, Almighty Dollar, our acknowledged governor, preserver and benefactor, we desire to approach thee on this and all occasions with that reverence which is the due of superior excellence, and the regard which will be cherished for exalted greatness. Almighty dollar, without thee in the world we can do nothing, but with thee we can do all things. When sickness lays its paralyzing hand upon us, thou canst provide for us the tenderest nurses the most skillful physicians, and when the last struggle of morality is over and we are being borne to the last resting place of the dead, thou canst provide a band of music and military escort to accompany us thither and, last but not least, erect a magnificent monument over our grave, with a living epitaph to perpetuate our memory. And while here, in the midst of misfortunes and temptations of life, we perhaps are accused of crime and brought before magistrates, thou Almighty Dollar, canst secure us a feeble lawyer, a bribed judge, a packed jury and we go scot free. Be with us, we pray thee, in all thy decimal parts, for thou art the only one altogether lovely and the chief among ten thousand. We feel there is no condition in life where thy potent and all powerful charms are not felt. In thy absence, how gloomy is the household and how desolate the hearthstone, but when thou O, Almighty Dollar, art with us, how graceful the bestrewn signs upon our forehead, how genial is the warmth and sympathetic glow of the smiles that diffuse themselves through the eyes, and make us feel as if we were in a better world than this.

Gulfport Notes.
A house and lot on Greens street, near Battle Ground avenue, was sold Monday at public auction by C. A. Bray, mortgagee, to T. J. Penn for \$1,795. The bidding started at \$1,500.
Mrs. Ellen Lewis died at her home in the southwestern suburb of the city Monday night, aged 70 years. The burial will take place today at Lee's chapel, where the body of the husband of the deceased was laid to rest last Thursday.
In the Federal Court here last week nine cases, seven against the Southern and two against the Norfolk & Western, were disposed of, the total amount of judgments against the railroad aggregating over \$200,000. It was one of the most successful days in the history of the court.

ATTENTION!
We want to let people know that they should plant trees that grow and produce fruit. We make a specialty of fruits of all kinds suited to this climate. Catalogue, prices and information, as to planting, pruning, cultivating and gathering sent free on request.

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Waverly, Ala.

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

No. 142	4:20 a. m.
" 144	10:50 "
" 134	8:05 p. m.

TRAINS ARRIVE FROM NORTH

No. 133	9:05 a. m.
" 141	8:55 "
" 143	4:25 p. m.

TRAINS GOING SOUTH:

No. 133	9:05 a. m.
" 71	9:35 "
" 75	4:30 p. m.

TRAINS ARRIVE FROM SOUTH

No. 74	8:25 a. m.
" 42	3:30 p. m.
" 134	8:00 "

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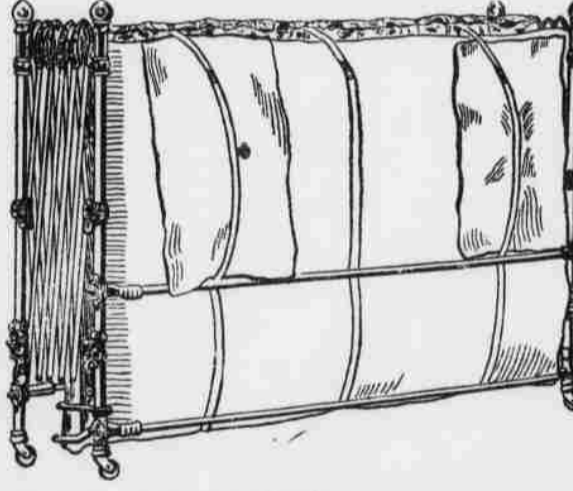
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