

## ABOUT EUGENE FIELD.

### BABY'S PAMPERING ON THE GLO-RIOUS POST OF CHILDHOOD.

Why Women Loved Him—How he Swept Men—His Hold on the Public—Popular Times That Touch the Human Heart—But Recall Stirring Southern Days.

St. Louis Republic.

It is a very miserable old man—and the grider of it is quite as miserable, in appearance, at least. I never knew him to be visible on a warm morning, but when it is chilly and everybody is shivering and has an unkind feeling toward every body else, then I hear the tones being ground out, and sometimes I get up and look out at him. Always I throw a few pennies out of the window, and he bows as if he were a knight of old or a baron of high degree. Why? I don't know. Sometimes I find the tears streaming down my face when he is playing a waltz—Wolter's Last—and there comes to you, the memory of the days when I last heard that waltz, and whirled around to it; and now when I hear it I wonder as you do, where are the old partners? Where are the old musicians, and where are the other women who found the music of the waltz fascinating? Just as I am wiping a tear he begins to play "My Maryland."

### DAYS OF AULD LANG SYNE.

And somebody sitting near me says: "You don't remember, but I do, when the soldiers marched through Baltimore—the captive soldiers, and we could give them a cup of coffee, or a bit of something to eat when they halted, but couldn't speak a word, for they were prisoners of war. It might be a brother or a father, but the most that could be done was to look in their eyes and hand them something that would cheer them in their long, tedious march. Oh, yes, sometimes we women broke the law, or the spirit of it. I remember the order went out that everybody was to put out a flag—an American flag. A young girl whose lover, whose brother and whose father were all in the Confederate army put out of the garret window a flag that measured 34—no, 3 feet by 4, but 2 inches by 4—while out of the corner pointed to it, she looked surprised, laughing cheerfully, and announced that she had only hung her black shawl and planned it to the broom handle out to air.

### THE NEWEST TENDER SONG.

This proved to be true, but it was suggested to her that in future she had better air her black shawl out of the back window. But that was fun, and all Baltimore laughed to think of a woman getting the letter of the stern authorities. But those were sad days, when women saw the men they loved, thin, haggard, tired, and yet all that could be done was to stand there silently and offer to everyone something to eat or drink. It is true that many a love letter was folded in a sandwich; that many a bright eye looked all the sympathy that it wasn't permitted to speak. The organ is playing the "Star Spangled Banner," and suddenly it has come to me and my comrade that those days have gone and that there is only one flag now, and that no women are as patriotic as the Southern women, and that in their desire to have the best man in the best place, they had voted against the ticket that, in years gone by, represented Southern aristocracy.

There is one new tune in the organ; it is what you would call common, but then most of us are common, for I take it that common means being alive. Most of us are a bit sentimental, most of us find that the blood in our veins dances and our hearts throb when we hear some tune that is a very common air—"There's Only One Girl in the World for Me"—nobody knows who wrote it—that is, nobody of any importance—but it touches me, and it makes me think of my neighbors think of some girl who meant all the world to him, and it makes me think of somebody who—oh! well, so many are gone. The commonest tunes, the tunes of the people, are the great ones. Who doubt that "Auntie Sarah" will survive "Tristan and Isolde"? How can you imagine a lump coming in your throat when all the instruments in the orchestra are clashing, and the singers are straining their lungs in their efforts to make you appreciate German opera? Nobody has to try to make such a noise when "Ben Holt" is sung. Nobody has to do that when any loving and lovable little song is to be sung; but, then, I don't think the words at large are affected by these very trying things. Mademoiselle Sharp and Pina, who sang the piano five hours a day just over my head, would probably disagree with me and call me vulgar. Probably I am, but I never knew a poem or a song worth remembering that wasn't what the analytic writers or scientific musicians call common.

### SOULFUL EUGENE FIELD.

Speaking of poetry, I must ask you to look at your hat, my friend, for a great poet has died, and in the presence of death we meet all is uncovered. Who is he? We only had one great poet in this country, and that was Eugene Field. If he had been anywhere else but in America, I hardly would have crowned him. What he has done has been to make men, women and children love his verses and love the man. You and I can't doubt that he is with his "Little Boy Blue," and while we are certain of it, we think of the little boys and the little girls who must be standing near him, who closed their eyes forever to this world, but who, while they were here, delighted

# ARMSTRONG FURNITURE COMPANY.

## We are Still Firing Out our Furniture Because We Have Goods the People Want at Prices They Can Afford to Pay.



### CHAIRS! CHAIRS!

We have Chairs Plain and Chairs Elegant, Large and Small, High and Low, For Old and Young. Children's Chairs, high for the table, Children's Dining Room Chairs, Easy Chairs, Arm Chairs, Beautiful Rockers, in short CHAIRS FOR ALL—good enough, fine enough, cheap enough for anybody.

### SPRING BEDS.

We have them. Our Woven Wire and also our Spiral Springs are Favorites. And don't forget that our prices please as well as the beds.

### MATTRESS DEPARTMENT.

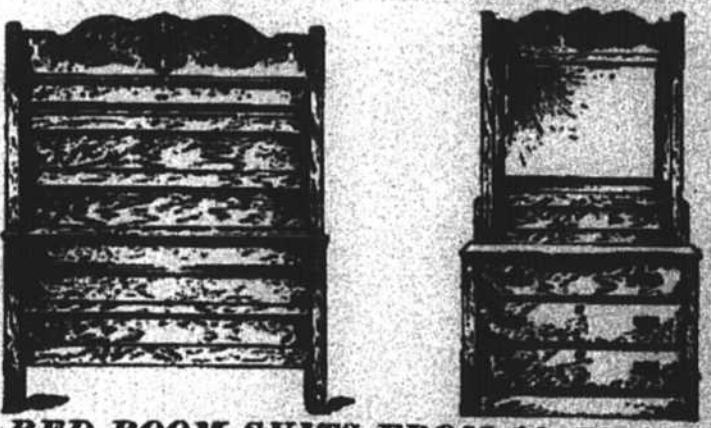
Our Mattresses we manufacture ourselves. You take no chances when you buy of us. Why? Because we ourselves select only the best nice, clean, fresh straw and shucks to put in them, and only the best material is used. We know what goes into them, and we know they are well made. They are Mattresses we are not afraid to sell and, therefore, Mattresses you can afford to buy. We shall take pleasure in furnishing you what you need in this line.

### CHRISTMAS PRESENT.

Our splendid strong Iron Express Wagon is just the thing to give your boy Christmas. It is not only a good thing to please him with but it is good for actual service.

### OTHER FURNISHINGS.

Call on us for HALL RACKS, PICTURES, nicely framed, and TABLES, put them on; also for CURTAIN POLES, and WINDOW SHADES, SAFES and SIDEROADS, CHAIRS and CARRIAGES for the Babies.



### BED ROOM SUITS FROM \$8 TO \$60.

Elegant Oak Suit for \$48. BEDSTEADS, BUREAUS, WASHSTANDS and CENTER TABLES in Suits and Single Pieces. We can suit YOU. Call to see us.

### INSTALLMENT PLAN.

Do you get a little money regularly, but are not burdened with too much of it at any one time? If so, ours is the place for you. By our installment plan you can have your home comfortably furnished. The terms are so easy as to leave no excuse for allowing your home to go unfurnished another day. You get the furniture and we become a savings bank for you until it is paid for. Whether you make payments on it every week, or every two weeks, or every month—that's left with you. Be sure to ask for our installment terms.

## ARMSTRONG FURNITURE COMPANY.

In hearing about the "Husband Lady From Lullaby Street," who came clothed so marvelously with poppies that hung from her head to her feet. I never knew Eugene Field, but I love him as thousands of women have loved him, because of his printed works; those words which, while they were in black and white, came as certainly from the heart as they did from the brain. I fear the world at large didn't appreciate him as they should, because his was a great soul. If you doubt it, get the "Little Book of Profitable Tales," and read the story called "The First Christmas Tree." I have known men who counted themselves hard-hearted, men who believed in nothing, but who, when they read that story suddenly found the tears chasing each other down their cheeks, and were forced to realize that there was something better here and hereafter, because one man told them so. That is a wonderful story about the little tree more beautiful than all the trees which were loved by the forest, and the pride of all the other trees. When it grew tall enough a great man came and sat under it, and talked, and cured those who were sick of heart, and once he shade hid him as he wept and was unhappy for many days and many nights, 40 in all. And then, a rough crowd rushed in the wood, and to the horror of all the other trees, cut down this one which was their pride and joy, broke off its beautiful branches and shaped it strangely, and on it suffered that One who had come to save all the world. And this was the story of the First Christmas Tree as told by the poet.

### A STORY OF SMILES AND TEARS.

Then there was that story that first brought the smiles, and then brought the tears—but they were gentle kind tears. And somehow, though the hero of this story, "Bill, the Little Boy," was a drunkard, it seems to me that what was predicted for him will happen to the man who has just gone from us. You laughed when it was said that "Bill got more good out of liquor and like got more good out of Bill than any man in seven counties." But, gradually the laugh becomes a smile as you read further on how Bill loved children and children loved Bill, and the man who was talking this story stands before the great Judge, that Judge whose mercy we can't comprehend, the little children will collect around him, my dear dead one among the rest, and they will hang on to him like the ivy does on a tree that has been struck by lightning, the singing and pleading little children, their little voices will ask for forgiveness. And what will the Judge do? Why, just what you or I would. He will say to the recording angel, "We'll not, pros. this case, and take the next on the docket." It mayn't be quite right—I am quoting from memory, but I do believe that when Eugene Field stands before that Judge, the pleasure that he has given the women and children, and the many times that he has touched the hearts of great strong men, will be counted, and his sins (I never heard he had any), will be wiped away and the case against him will be not, prosed. God comfort those who bear his name and all those who loved him. As for us we ought to thank God for giving to the world such a beautiful nature and for letting us know of one that brought joy to so many whose lives are barren and whose life has little joy in it.

### WHEN YOUR TOOLS HAVE ENDED.

Had? Not a bit. Why should any of us be and when those we love have got rid of all the worries of life and are at rest? It is true that we may feel a bit lonely, but life is very short, and who knows what comes after? I did not ever try to think what sort of a hereafter you would like? You know yourself that you would feel comfortable on golden streets devoting yourself to musical instruments. I never could believe that the descriptions of heaven usually accepted were

### VADESVILL'S BILTMORE PALACE.

Historic Unpublished Figures Which Give an Idea of the Grand Work Carried Out for Mr. Vanderbil's A. T. Vanderbilt to the Biltmore Thruout Asheville Citizen.

"It is doubtful whether, either in the Old World or New," says the New York Architectural Record, "a builder has ever executed a nobler residential edifice than the Southern home of Mr. George Vanderbilt. Selected from a number of his competitors for the performance of such a great work, he would be unworthy of his calling had he not taken pleasure in every hour of his task, and pride in its accomplishment. Biltmore is a monument to the architect by whom it was designed, and next to the architect it is a monument to the skill of the mason who carried into existence that design."

"Selected to be the mansions of Mr. Vanderbilt's home, Messrs. D. C. Weeks & Son began their labor in the summer of 1890, and after five years of continuous effort, Biltmore today stands out against the skies. No wonder that the traveler goes out of his way hundreds of miles to view this magnificent creation of man's brains and handiwork."

"It was thought, at the beginning, that a quarry on the Vanderbilt estate might supply the stone necessary for the building, and Mr. Weeks opened up his quarry. But the stone—granite rock—was found of utility in the foundations only, and Indiana limestone was used for the main superstructure, some 30,000 feet of face rock being used. Some of the pieces of carved stone set in place by the masons were very large, one in the retaining wall, for instance, weighing over three tons.

"To describe at length the detail of construction of this retaining wall would require more space than can here be given. Suffice it to say that it has a base varying from 17 1/2 feet thick at the top to two feet in thickness at the base. It was started at different thicknesses, according as the grade raised or lowered, and it was underlain with a concrete foundation 30 feet in width.

"Beyond this great retaining wall appears the esplanade, 238 feet in length and 75 feet in width. In the center of this esplanade is a beautiful fountain, some 50 feet in diameter.

### IN THE HOUSE.

"Entering the main floor from the terrace, the visitor is at once struck with the beauty of the winter garden, which is built in octagon form. It is 60 feet square. From the winter garden the best view is obtained of the main floor. All the principal rooms are seen from its many large windows in almost kaleidoscope completeness. To the west is the salon, 40 feet in length. To the north of the garden and the corridors surrounding it, is the banquet hall, and west of this hall is the breakfast-room, beyond which is the main kitchen.

"The banquet hall is notable not only for its beauty of interior, but also for its size and construction. It is 75 feet long, 43 feet wide and 70 feet high, with one span and a dome ceiling. At the western end appear three massive triple fireplaces of almost gigantic proportions. At the eastern end there is an organ loft and a balcony for musicians.

"Another feature of the main floor is the living hall, 50x20 in size. The hall runs up to the top floor. Immediately west of the hallway under the main hall is the music room. There is also a swimming pool 80 feet long and 30 feet wide, adjoining which are needle baths, sprays and the like.

"North of the living hall is the tapetery gallery. Three large panels have been built in the walls to receive suitable tapestries to be placed there by Mr. Vanderbilt. At one side of the gallery are two large glass fireplaces, in sixteenth century decoration.

"To the south of the gallery, which is 75 feet long, the library is entered. This handsome room is 60 feet long and 40 feet wide. It has a single span, and one of the girder weighs over 14 tons. On top of this enormous girder is a chimney which runs to the roof to a height of 51 feet.

"Descending from the library we come to the Library Terrace, a plane 35 feet wide, which leads down to the south terrace, which is over 500 feet long. On this terrace is a bowling green.

"According to the upper floor we find a vast succession of sleeping chambers and some 30 bath-rooms. Mr. Hunt was very happy in the arrangement of these floors, each guest, in whatever room he may be placed, having access to a bath-room.

"Emerging once more into the open, and winding our way to the south of the esplanade, we find a hundred-foot terrace, containing large basins for aquatic plants. To the west end of this terrace is a tennis court, and there are similar courts to the east and south of the terrace.

"Near the house itself is the stable, which is of stone and contains accommodations for about 40 horses.

### A VAST ESTATE.

"It is not generally known that Biltmore stands in the midst of some 60,000 to 70,000 acres of ground, and that the total cost of Mr. Vanderbilt's holdings in the vicinity aggregates about 100,000 acres. This gives more than ample room for the numerous game preserves, shooting boxes, trout streams, etc., that may be desired by the owner of such a domain. The lands in the neighborhood of the house, however, are treated to some landscape effects, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, the landscape architect. These effects are produced in a measure by calling in the work of the mason in the way of constructing bridges across streams. There is also a big dam, 126 feet long and 30 feet high, beyond which is a beautiful lake, about one-quarter of a mile in length, which could be utilized for rowing and fishing. There is a dam about one-quarter of a mile above the main dam, so built that in case of a flood the water will fall into a trap, which is perforated; and when the trap becomes overweighed sufficiently heavily it lifts a gate, opening on a sluiceway, so as to allow the water to pass out into the lake. The reason for this arrangement is that the soil is light and the lake would otherwise be filled in a year or two, owing to the fragments in the mountainous region in the south-west section of North Carolina.

"Among the general features of Biltmore the following items may be of popular interest:

"The extreme length is 374 feet, and its extreme width, from the portico to the westerly end of the breakfast room and music room, 159 feet. Still, its lateral proportions seem to diminish as it goes.

"It has about 100 rooms in all. It contains three elevators, and it is said that 80 servants will be required when it is fully occupied.

"Over 11,000,000 brick were used in the construction, and they were made out of clay on the estate. Of course there was the stone in addition.

"The description gives above merely outlines, in a very faint manner, the work done by Messrs. Weeks & Son at Biltmore. To have created Biltmore alone is a task that might well be pointed to as the one single achievement of a life time.

### THE BRADLEY & CURRIER COMPANY.

The Bradley & Currier Company, of New York City, which had the contract for a large part of the work, were eight months in completing the fitting for the bath rooms, toilet rooms and lavatories, the swimming-tank, reception, etc., put up by them in Biltmore.

"Although it might be presumed that the bath-rooms are most elaborate in decoration, the visitor will find them devoid of gorgeousness. The wall-covering is of the simplest character; there is no ornamentation, no coloring, no ornamentation. It consists simply of 6-inch squares of enameled white tile, with moulded sanitary bases and saps, the floors being of white vitreous tile of a variety of sizes.

"The lounge-room is a striking piece of art in tile. It is, indeed, tiled to the ceiling. The girder and posts also are covered in ivory white tile, with a moulded sanitary base and cap. The kitchen walls, laundry and drying-rooms, pastry kitchen, and pantry are all wainscoted to a height of over five feet, the very inlets in the window-frames being also tiled, the effect produced being very rich and unusual. The floors, too, are of American tile. The kitchens are in ivory tile, and tile surrounds the ranges, the entire rooms, including the ranges and doorways, being tiled five feet high.

"A fine contrast between wood and tile is to be seen in the butler's pantry at Biltmore. This is a large-almond chamber, where the walls beyond the wood-work are tiled to the ceiling. The effect of this contrast, where the work is so superb in character, can only be realized by a visit to this compartment.

"The lower halls or corridors of Biltmore present a very pretty and attractive appearance. The floors are set in black and hydraulic tile of red and buff colors, making an exceptionally handsome finish.

"All the servants' bath-rooms and toilet-rooms—and they are quite numerous—are equal in finish and workmanship to the private rooms of a similar character."

### THE INHERITED DEBTS.

Quincy, Mass., Dec. 1.

Harrison began with a surplus which was year by year reduced till in his last year there was a deficit. Cleveland began his second term with a deficit inherited from Harrison. It was \$73,325,445 the first year, \$48,555,990 the second, and estimates make it less than \$40,000,000 the current fiscal year.

### High Tariff and Its Progress.

Kansas City Times.

A high tariff, which shuts out competition and gives the home market over to the control of the manufacturer, causes an unhealthy stimulation, then overproduction and finally stagnation, shut-downs, lock-outs, reductions in wages and strikes.

### The Cherryville Cotton Mills have begun to run day and night.

The Shelby Star says the Methodists at that outfit have bought and will fit up a neat parsonage for their minister resident in Shelby.

### Ordered Testimony.

Chas. R. Hood, Broker and Manufacturer's Agent, Columbus, Ohio, certifies that Dr. King's New Discovery has no equal as a cough remedy. J. D. Brown, Prop. St. James Hotel, Ft. Wayne, Ind., testifies that he was cured of a cough of two years standing, caused by La Grippe, by Dr. King's New Discovery. B. F. Merrill, Baldwinville, Minn., says that he has used and recommended it and never knew it to fail and would rather have it than any other, because it always cures. Mrs. Hemming, 222 E. 15th St., Chicago, always keeps it at hand and has no fear of Croup, because it instantly relieves. Free Trial Notices at O'CONNOR & KANE'S Drug Store.

### TILING AND FIREPLACES.

In this department the Record says: "The grandeur of Biltmore, both in exterior and interior, has been so largely dwelt upon that it may be appropriate to say a few words about the marvellously fine work in the way of tiling, mantels, wainscoting, etc., which adorn the interior of that magnificent structure."

"An evidence of the extentiveness of this work is shown in the fact that

### BLAND'S SOLITARY CONFINEMENT.

Noted as a student in Savannah, from Savannah Chief of Police from Savannah held only one ticket—his business in Savannah.

Mr. Bland, the great apostle of free silver, doubtless believed from the reports he received from the South that there was some kind of a volcanic eruption down here. He came along on a lecture tour and was billed to appear in the city of Savannah. When he arrived there he strolled down to inspect the financial developments of his South. It is natural to suppose that parties engaged in the holy warfare to inhibit of the people against the Ministry of Lombard street and the American gold bug and Grover Cleveland would be indifferent concerning personal pecuniary matters. But it seems to have taken him for their efforts to free an enslaved and miserable country and a nation of hungry tramps and oppressed paupers, such as they exist, to describe this country to be let Mr. Bland went to look at the ticket sales. He found that they amounted to just one ticket. If the Bland heretofore's aggregation of talent had been concentrated on his daily receipts for his daily lectures and movements and how the distinguished congressmen would have been compelled to travel on his train or to become a permanent ornament of the boulevards of Savannah.

As it was, however, Mr. Bland had less public spirit and fidelity than the average show. He declined to perform. Presumably the daring and reckless investor in the Bland lecture ticket received his share of free silver and it is that much money that was thought he was. Mr. Bland had himself off and out and moved on to the next town. He absolutely refused to visit his intellectual colleagues and political and financial views upon the single ticket of a leading Southern city who paid to hear them. The two might have had a row time and could have then and there explained the new party on which Ben Tillman is to ride triumphant to the White House.

The mind of the statesman of the Bland school is necessarily vague and profile of explanation. We have no doubt that before the next morning after his somewhat depressing appearance at Savannah Mr. Bland had evolved an entirely plausible explanation. He could find it in the theory that all his doctrines and theories are abundantly justified—that which the people of Savannah are literally hungering for free silver eloquence and doctrine they are so unaccountably and universally impoverished, ruined, desolate, destroyed and persecuted by the financial policy of the government that only one man among them could secure the means of a decent and free labor or crops. This would make the entire situation clear. The people of the South are wild over free silver—no doubt about that. But they have been reduced to such condition that they can not procure lecture tickets except such as are sent out as premiums with popular publications or even in raffish.

### NO MARCH FARE.

Mayor Gurno Says That Millionaires Are Building the Country. New York Recorder.

Mayor Gurno of San Francisco, reformer, octogenarian, many times millionaire and philanthropist, is emphatic in his declaration that it does not pay to get rich.

"I don't," is the only source of happiness. It is not my intention to leave all my wealth to my children, as far as I am able to confer that benefit, and I shall leave as a legacy to them of my own family an incentive to the effort which I contend is the source of happiness. I do not believe that a man with a false competence which pretends the necessity of his effort constantly applied in this life is the richest pleasure of this life. The man who is engaged in congenial labor is the happiest of all men.

"The power to concentrate wealth is a menace to the country. It is the root of corruption that is sapping the foundations of our Government. Millions of syndicates and corporations are impoverishing the people and ruining the nation. Perhaps I am, but I am not a fool, and I refuse to believe the sophistry of corporate greed and the pliancy of the plain facts of my personal observation. Our political system is all wrong, and our social system is even worse. The founders of this Republic gave us the best constitution ever devised, but we have drifted far away from the principles enunciated by Jefferson, Hancock and the signers of the declaration of independence.

"Corporations seek the money power own the country to-day, and the people are steadily being reduced to a condition of abject slavery. If I had my way I would compel every man of wealth and every corporation to contribute to a fund for the employment of the workmen. I would tax them not only in proportion to their wealth, but in a sufficient amount to provide labor for every man willing to work. We are all more or less dependent upon one another, and we are bound in our own humanity to assist one another. If we refuse this, we should be compelled to do so. I am in favor of a public fund to provide work for laboring men and I am in favor of taxing the rich to provide the fund."

Economy is something that everybody tries to practice, and yet just a little oversight will sometimes rob the most frugal and thrifty farm of a year's savings. You want to do as J. E. Pickensman, of Massachusetts, did. He writes: "For six years I have kept Simons' Liver Regulator in my house and used it in my family and have had no need for a doctor. I have five or six healthy children as you can find."

The Washburn mill will be equipped with new machinery and the product increased 25 per cent.