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W. H. GIBSON,
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BILL ARP ON DIVORCES.

SAYS THE INCREASE FROM YEAR TO YEAR IS ALARMING.

Was Different Years Ago—Bill Says the Cause is Not Known What the Poor Girls Will do if Married in No Mind.

Who are the marriageable girls going to marry? This generation cannot judge the future by the past, for the past does not interest them. The present is their chief concern. Only the old people who married half a century ago can appreciate the contrast between now and then, and the change for the worse is alarming. The marriage relation has lost much of its seriousness, its solemnity, its dignity, and consequently separations and divorces have increased far more rapidly than the population. During the past twenty years population has increased 60 per cent, while divorces have increased 157 per cent. What a record of broken vows and conjugal misery. Dr. Landrum, the eminent Baptist preacher of Atlanta, said in a recent sermon, "Our homes are in peril. The foundations of society are threatened. Marriage is too often a mockery. Divorces are rapidly multiplying in our courts and domestic depravity goes apace."

But legal divorces are but a small proportion of the number of separations, and a still smaller proportion of unhappy married people who suffer and endure their conjugal misery rather than mortify their children or excite public scandal. A noble lady of our town declared recently that she knew of but two happily married couples in our whole community. Only two who are as loving and devoted as when they stood at the marriage altar. We all know many, who, if not as happy as when first married, are nevertheless kind to each other, and their happiness is only marred by the anxieties incident to married life.

St. Paul said, "The love of money is the root of all evil," and Ben Franklin said, "The lack of it is the cause of all misery." Neither of those assertions are altogether true, but they approximate the truth. It was rumormongering about the greed and selfishness of mankind, for I have been reading about these trusts so much lately that, like the city of Sion, I have become skeptical. I don't know what is going to be the end of it. In the Saturday Review of December 2 and 9, which is a ladies' journal of great excellence, published in Atlanta, there are articles on trusts, written by Dr. Alfred E. Seddon, an Englishman, I believe, but now a citizen of Atlanta, which for cogent and classic thought excites both admiration and alarm. After setting forth the usual evils that will follow these great combinations of capital, he asks, "What is pushing on this mighty movement—this great iceberg that is going counter to powerful currents and billows? Popular denunciation, the press, the enactments of congress and legislatures, are like so many waves spending their impotent wrath in vain upon the monster. Trusts will continue to move on. They will grow in power and will in time control all the wealth, the transportation, the production of goods and food. They will enslave the masses of the people, they will be soul crushing and absolute, and they will beat out another army of would-be toilers, who will have no visible means of support—and then what? To what goal are they hastening? Congress might as well try to prevent the sun from setting in the west or to stop the down rushing of Niagara as to attempt by law to arrest this universal trend of modern commerce toward trusts."

Then Dr. Seddon writes of the new factor in American society—the factor of poverty—and says that its presence and its power is not yet realized. He quotes from the address of welcome by the Chicago Federation of Labor to the trades assembly: "We bid you welcome in the names of a hundred millionaires and fifty thousand tramps. Here mammon holds her carnival in palaces, while mothers are heart-broken and children are starving, and men are looking in vain for work. We welcome you in the name of a hundred thousand idle men, and tonight we will show you hundreds of stronger men lying on the rough stones in the corridors of this very building—no home, no food—unable able and willing to work, but for whom there is no work."

In New York City there were over 30,000 families turned out last year for unpaid rent. There were 257 suicides and one person in every ten who dies is buried in the potter's field. Oh, the pity of it—the pity of it! When will the millennium come? Dr. Seddon tells us that he knows that God is good and will not suffer such misery to be prolonged, and because he has promised that all the families of the earth shall be blessed.

I am almost afraid to read such spot pictures of human misery bring sadness and despair. Long, long ago I over the "Lay of the laborer," by Tom Hood, when it first appeared in London. That same old and song has gotten over here on this side of the water, and now our own strong men are singing:

Wherever nature needs,
No job I'll shirk of the hardest work
To show the workhouse wags;
No else I see, give me my task—
Here are the arm, the loom,
The strength, the sinews of a man,
To work, and not to beg.

How to get there.

The best way to get to the top is to begin at the bottom, and then just turn things upside down.

Working Night and Day.

The busiest and mightiest little thing that ever was made is Dr. King's New Life Pills. Every pill is a sugar-coated globe of health, that changes weakness into strength, listlessness into energy, brain-fog into mental power. They're wonderful in building up the health. Only 25c per box. Sold by J. R. Curry and Company.

SCHOOL HISTORIES.

A Protest Against the False History That is Being Imbued From History Books Which Teach That Our Ancestors Were Wrong.

Many South.

The histories used as text books in the schools show the principles, opinions and prejudices of the young people who study them, and it is, therefore, of the highest importance that the boys and girls of the south should not be misled by inaccurate, false or unfriendly accounts of their native land and their ancestors.

For many years after the close of the civil war the fathers and mothers of this section were busy to give any of their time and attention to the books studied by their children in the common schools, and inexperienced and careless boards of education allowed histories to be adopted which did great injuries to our people. These histories, as a rule, were the work of northern writers, and they were issued by northern publishing houses. They magnified the victories and exploits of the soldiers, statesmen, pioneers and great men, and devoted very little space to southerners.

Many of these histories spoke of the southern war of secession as "the rebellion," and the southerners were characterized as "rebels." Slavery was wicked and cruel. Secession was without any lawful excuse. The southerners were disloyal, idle and lawless, and their ancestors were mainly convicts, debtors and paupers. Their victories were barely mentioned, but their defeats were exaggerated. The young persons who read these books were led to believe that their fathers were about semi-civilized, and had wickedly rebelled against a just government. They were impressed with the idea that the south was a land of ignorance and violence, and was only kept from relapsing into barbarism by the example and the efforts of the enlightened northern states.

Thousands of young southerners who have grown into manhood since the surrender have been more or less impressed with these ideas, and in their writings, speeches and every day conversation they make it evident that they have very little respect for the civilization of the old south, and that they have accepted the northern standard in everything. This result is due to the fact that false history has been taught in our schools. The young southerners who are ashamed of the record made by their fathers simply ignorant of the ignorance of the real facts of history.

Fortunately, with the past few years there has been a decided improvement. Our camps of Confederate veterans, and the Sons and Daughters of the Confederacy have critically examined our school histories, and the good work is still going on. From time to time this announcement is made that school history has been revised, or has been thrown out of the schools, or that a new one has been adopted. Northern writers have been instructed by their publishers to be more courteous and considerate, and they have found it necessary to modify their strictures and comments upon our people and our leaders. Some of the northern histories now show that secession was, at least, a disputed question on which the ablest constitutional lawyers were divided. They admit that the southern slaves were well cared for. Our great men receive due credit for pure motives. Still the average school history from a northern source is very unsatisfactory to the well-informed southerner, and is not such a book as he desires to place in the hands of his children.

There is a growing demand for histories written by southerners who are qualified for the work, but very few of these books can be recommended. They show haste and inaccuracy. Some of them leave out the names of one or two of the greatest southern generals. They give undue prominence to certain states. Some of them are too much condensed. Others give unimportant details. Two or three contain gross mis-statements.

Our Confederate organizations are disposed to judge the histories fairly, and while they prefer an impartial history written and published here in the south, they have never proposed to practically boycott northern publications when they are of superior merit.

The discussion of the history question has been taken up by the newspapers, and perhaps more than any other one thing, has called the attention of the northern people to the school book question. The thoughtful southerner begins to see that the character and destiny of their children will depend very largely upon the education they receive in the common schools, and they are rapidly coming to the conclusion that it will be unwise policy to place the rising generation under unfriendly influences and mistaken advisers. Under such tutelage our young southerners will soon become the advocates of the false political doctrines, the cranky ideas, and the dangerous social and religious ideas of New England.

If the south expects to reach her best development, she must be true to herself. Her people should be southerners as well as genuine Americans, and while they should be hospitable, tolerant and fair in their dealings with strangers, it would be the height of folly for them to suddenly adopt in a wholesale way all of the principles, ideas and methods of a distant people who look upon us with scorn and contempt.

So far as it is possible we should always give the preference to southern teachers, authors and books, when their merits justify it. It is simply the common sense and patriotic policy of standing by our home people and their work and their products when they deserve our support. To ignore them and give our patronage to strangers and aliens who are endeavoring to teach the rising generation to despise their ancestry and their native soil would be both foolish and wicked.

In another article it will be shown that some of the greatest educators and

HOW MUCH DID HIS WIFE COST?

Young Cornelius Vanderbilt Already Knows But Refuses to Make Public His Father's Will—Married Miss Wilson and is Believed to Have Lost the Bulk of the Van Estate Through Financial Speculations.

New York is crazy to know the contents of Cornelius Vanderbilt's will, and all the newspapers are guessing. Although the will was read to the members of the family several days ago, the disposition of the hundred million dollar estate is still unknown to the public. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., married Miss Grace Wilson contrary to his father's wishes, and thus fell under paternal displeasure. Miss Wilson is a daughter of R. T. Wilson, the banker, who was at one time a Georgian. There was no objection to the young lady except that she was not a young heiress. There is a belief that Cornelius Y. married her but for the marriage would have inherited the bulk of the fortune, while she receives a much smaller share and that his younger brother, Alfred Gwynne, will be the head of the house of Vanderbilt.

Cornelius Vanderbilt is at Newport. He will not discuss his father's will except to say that his father was always a just man, and in making his will was as conscientious in doing what he thought was right as he always was in his practical life. That the will was satisfactory to everybody concerned and could in no way interest the public.

Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt is in Japan when his father died and is now on his way home. The New York World says he will inherit something less than half of the estate and adds: "The rest of the great fortune will be divided between his two sisters, his two brothers and mother. This statement was made last night by an intimate friend of the family."

The same authority said: "Alfred never gave his father or mother a moment of serious uneasiness. He has been, and is for that matter, an average boy of the best sort. He is like a thousand other college boys, and the fact that his father had a hundred millions had never seemed to turn his head or affect him in any way."

"He was educated by private tutors until he entered Yale, four years ago. He entered upon college life with a great and joyful heart. He was as full of mischief as most of the boys, but he was never mixed in any scrape that could make him blush."

"He was a good student, but he was content to slip along easily. He was fond of outdoor sports, but he never tried to earn the Yale prize in any branch of athletics. He spent a good deal of money but was very unostentatious. He never took advantage of the fact or even seemed conscious of his father's millions."

"He was frankly fond of society, and there was as much chaff as well as desire to testify to his popularity when his class voted him the social-night before he graduated last June."

"He was not trained, as was his brother Cornelius, with the end in view of the management of the Vanderbilt fortune, but he was a Yale man and set up for himself. It would be infinitely better for the Negro, who can never reach the full measure of American manhood and citizenship with his environment of race prejudice and ostracism in this country. Something more than the right to earn a living is demanded of one who enjoys American citizenship. The highest premiums and rewards of life should be within the zone of his aspirations and achievements. They are shut out from the Negro in the main, and the reason of his inferior and previous condition servitude, the constitution of the United States to the contrary notwithstanding. Race prejudice is not confined to the white man and Negro. It is a strong and intense between the white man and Indian or Chinaman, or any colored race. It affects relations between families of the white race, and has recently shaken the foundations of the French republic almost to the point of tottering and collapse. Why the Almighty has implanted this feeling in our hearts, of course, I shall not endeavor to explain. The most advanced stages of civilization do not appear to eradicate it—Christianity does not nor cannot, and the only refuge for the weaker race is an exodus, or perpetual subordination to the stronger, or extermination."

He Was Not Impressed.

There were eight of us going to stop at the same town and the same hotel in a Kansas hamlet, and we talked things over before we left the train. Each one registered himself as a professor, judge or general, and when the last names was down, we stood waiting to hear any observation from the landholder. He was a quiet speaker, humble looking man, and he should have been duly impressed with the array of names. He wasn't, though. He read them over in a careless way and then looked up to say:

"All right, professors, judges and generals, I'll do the best I can for you, and I guess most of the folks will turn out to your circus tomorrow if the weather is pleasant."

A Word to Mothers.

Mothers of children affected with croup or severe cold need not hesitate to administer Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It contains no opiate nor narcotic in any form and may be given confidently to the babe as to an adult. The great success that has attended its use in the treatment of colds and croup has won for it the approval and praise it has received throughout the United States and in many foreign lands. For sale by J. E. Curry & Company, Druggists.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Some Congress Members Why This Measure Should be Incorporated Into Our State Constitution.

Charlotte Observer.

The people of this country and Carolina are so much interested in the success of the pending amendment to the constitution that I feel constrained to write somewhat on the subject and showing the status of our white people on this question. Being a Democrat to the manner born, and one of absolutely unswerving allegiance to my party first and foremost, and zealously toward anything looking to the betterment of our people, I would be an unworthy son of a noble commonwealth did I not render every aid in my power toward the ratification of what I regard the most momentous issue that has been before our people in a quarter of a century.

Take people, almost as a unit, are enthusiastic over the good prospect of its passage; and I think quite a number of the better class of the Republican will lend it their support. Certainly they have good reasons for so doing when such men as Mr. Settle, Judge Starbuck and a host of others of their party have publicly declared their intention of supporting it. That the negroes and their cohorts, if I may so express it, the white Republicans, who are dependent upon their votes to ride into some petty office, will support it is a foregone hope; but seriously I feel to see why the yeomanry of the Republican party, the good, honest rank and file can do otherwise than lend their just measure their aid, when the facts are abundant to show that it is for the very best welfare of both white and black that such an amendment be inserted in our constitution. I said both white and black, and I did so advisedly. That its passage will really be for the best welfare of the negro, I do not doubt, and I do not assert it as a plausible subterfuge.

More than thirty years ago, the negro fresh from under the yoke of slavery, a wholly ignorant, superstitious and uncultured race, was at once elevated from this position to that of a suffragist alongside of his cultured white brother. The sudden exaltation has from that hour has instilled into the negro a desire for equality with his white brother, not so pronounced at first, but the idea has been gaining momentum from year to year, until the uprising in the eastern part of the State not so long ago but that we all remember with what suspense we awaited the outcome, was the logical result of his unwise elevation. Such a state of affairs the good white people of the State are determined to end once and for all. The proposed amendment is not in reality unjustly discriminating against the negro as a race. It says to every voter: If you cannot read a section of your State constitution, you ought not and shall not be allowed the freedom of State suffrage. If the negro cannot measure up to the requirements, let him get about to do so. And staidly because it will be an added stimulus to the negro to look more to his education, I believe it is to his best welfare that the measure become a law. And secondly, it will carry away from the negro that false idea of equality with the white man; will show him that where he stands, and will further show him that the only thing for him to do is to not presumptuously arrogate to himself equality with the white man until he has some just reason for so doing, but by setting to work, with all his his power, to become a good law-abiding, intellectual citizen of a good State. Be assured when the negro does this the State will only too gladly give him a showing, as she does every good citizen. We cannot, and do not, expect the negro to support the amendment, but it is really to their best interest to do so.

The people of Lincoln and Catawba will heartily support it; and I am gratified beyond measure at the bright prospect of the passage of a law that should have been on the statute book at least a dozen years ago. Every white man, be he Republican or what not, who ardently wishes peace and prosperity to permanently remain within the borders of our good old State can never do a better deed than casting his ballot for the constitutional amendment.

Denver, N. C. W. M. SHERRELL.

Is the Small Town.

Column of Advertisements World.

An advertiser ought to be on the best possible terms with the newspapers of his town. He can't afford to be penny wise and pound foolish. He ought to know personally every newspaper proprietor and employ with whom he does business. He ought to put every one of them under obligation to him. Every store is constantly doing things that are of interest in a news way, and every item of that kind that has any reference, direct or indirect, to the store, ought to find its way into print. If there is the right sort of feeling between the store and the newspaper, and the merchant has enterprise enough to attend to it, it will. I know of a store that has one or more news items concerning it published almost every day. One day it's about an excursion of employees; another, a big painting or map exhibition in its window; another, about something its advertising manager has done; another some present it has made the soldiers in camp; another, persons about leads of departments who have gone East or to Europe—and so, week in and week out. They are liberal advertisers in the regular way, to be sure, spending money and lots of it with the newspapers—but they are far-sighted to keep in close touch with the papers, and in return they get a kind of treatment and a grade of publicity that no close-fisted scoundrel would purchase.

The great success of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy in the treatment of bowel complaints has made it standard over the greater part of the civilized world. For sale by J. E. Curry & Company, Druggists.

"My old man," said Aunt Chloe, "is the best man for chickens you see. If he can't get a chicken any other way he'll go an' buy one."

MARK TWAIN'S NERVOUS.

The Path of Crime Which Leads to Ruiny South.

Mark Twain was the guest of the new Vagabond club at the Holborn restaurant in London recently.

Having a large assembly of Vagabonds to address he made use of the occasion to develop a brand new scheme of morality.

Mr. George Grossmith, the chairman provided the text. He said that was the first time he had ever taken the chair.

"Quite so," said Mark Twain, addressing the gathering. "Perhaps you didn't see the full bearing of the remark. I did. Though he didn't say it, he meant that he had taken lots of other things, but never a chair. Now Grossmith is a man myself—a practical, not a theoretical moralist."

"You do not learn it at Sunday school. There they teach you to avoid temptation. That is theoretical morality. Now, I would teach you to familiarize yourself with crime, so that you will know what you must not do. That is practical morality. I begin by teaching you how to steal."

"It is by the fires of experience that you are purified. By the commission of crime you learn real practical morality. It familiarizes you with every crime. Take them in rotation. There are not more than two or three thousand. Steal to the task diligently, two or three times every day, and by and by, when you have done them all, you will be proof against the temptation to commit any one of them, morally perfect, vaccinated against all wickedness."

"I will tell you a story about the first time I stole a watermelon. That is I think it was the first time. Anyhow, it was right along there somewhere. I stole that melon out of the cart while the farmer was attending another customer. 'Stole' is a harsh I will modify it and say that I withdrew the melon. I carried it to a secluded bower and broke it open—and it was green! It was the greenest watermelon that was raised in the valley that year. The minute I saw the watermelon was green I was sorry."

"I began to reflect. Now, reflection is the beginning of reform. If you don't reflect when you have committed a crime—why, that crime if it goes to you at all, I said to myself, what ought a boy to do who has stolen a green watermelon? What would George Washington do? George Washington, father of his country couldn't tell a lie. He was the only American who couldn't. What would he do? Why, there was only one right high and noble thing for a boy to do who had stolen a watermelon of that character. He must make restitution. He must restore the melon to its rightful owner."

"And I said, 'I will do it.' The moment I made that good resolution I felt the noble exaltation which comes after you have done wrong and you determine to do right. I rose up spiritually strengthened and refreshed and I carried that watermelon back—what was left of it—restored it to the farmer, and made him give me a ripe one instead."

Having delivered himself amid screams of laughter of his shining example, Mr. Clemens returned to his morals.

"It is," he said, "this constant impact of crime upon crime, this stacking up of iniquity after iniquity, and thus protecting yourself against those crimes in the future—it is this which finally gladdens your moral edifice and completes it. You cannot become morally perfect by doing good. You must be morally perfect by stealing a watermelon, not by stealing a thousand. It has been tried. But every little helps."

And so Mark Twain concluded with the hope that the Vagabonds would grow in practical morality until they died—and might that be a long time hence.

FORGOTTEN COUNTRY FOR LOVE.

Two Soldiers Deserted the First to Leave Their Sweethearts in the States.

Not because they loved their country less, but because they loved their sweethearts more, two soldiers, members of the Twenty-ninth United States Volunteers, left the ranks and deserted the first to leave their sweethearts in the States.

These two soldiers, Robert E. Henry and Robert Wagoner, of Company B, Twenty-ninth United States Volunteers, and did not hesitate to leave their country and their duty. When the call for arms came, they left their tasks incomplete and hastened to the front, but now, when the soft, tender voice of love came to the bank of night, they obeyed the still small voice and quietly left the front.

The days slipped away, but there was no news from the missing man. The city was searched, but they were not found; the soldiers were entered, but there was no trace of the soldiers.

They were young bachelors. Yesterday they were found. They were with their brides at 21 Young street, where the double marriage occurred several days ago. The grooms are cousins and the brides are sisters. "You are arrested for desertion," said the officers, as they faced the young soldiers.

"We are married sir," was the reply as the young bachelors stood erect. "Gentlemen, our wives."

But all's fair in love and war and desertion was followed by arrest and the young husbands are now confined in the guard house at the fort.

Ten days ago these men, it is said, were missing from their regiment. A diligent search was instituted for them but they could not be found. Yesterday afternoon Sergeant Joseph E. Cooley, of company A, got wind of the fact that the men were at 21 Young street. He secured the addresses of F. B. Gray, a deputy at the Tower, and the two paid a visit to the home.

It was there that the soldiers were found. They had married the Misses Whitaker, two sisters, and were taking their honeymoon with no thought perhaps of the regiment, part of which was getting ready to leave for the Philippines to-day and the other half of which is to leave tomorrow or Monday.

"I told you we stayed away too long," said one of the soldiers to his wife. The words had hardly been spoken when both of the girls burst out crying. The scene was very pathetic. No wonder, the deputy and sergeant, as they afterwards stated, stood irresolute. But there was no alternative. The newly married soldiers must go back to their regiment.

MEMBERS SAT GOODBYE.

At length after vows were said and promises were made the soldier boys made goodbyes to their wives and were taken away to answer the charge of desertion that love, it seems, had driven them to.

Henry and Wagoner are from Elmwood, Ga., and are well connected.

The company to which they belong is included in the sections which are to leave over the Atlanta and West Point road Monday for the Philippines. It is probable, however, that the two boys will not be among them who are to go, as they will have to face a general court-martial on the charge of desertion.

Under the above heading the Louisville Courier-Journal editorially comments as follows:

The South in time may expect a better understanding of the race problem in New York if not in other Eastern cities. Negroes are moving there from the South in such numbers that despite of the great mortality resulting from the unsanitary conditions in which they live they have shown an increase of 60 per cent. since 1890. In Brooklyn the gain has been still greater, and the negro proportion of the population is now 14 per cent. They have increased so rapidly in some quarters that they have caused trouble in the schools. In the borough of Queens they constitute one-fourth of the population, and while there are not enough to justify the establishment of separate schools there are so many that the school authorities say they have become nuisances.

The North and East have had so few negroes heretofore that they have not felt the burden. The small proportion of the population has been easily absorbed and taken care of by the white citizenship. Where negroes are few they live better and the criminal element among them is repressed. In consequence the people have no idea of the conditions that prevail in the "black belt" of the South, where there is an overwhelming proportion of the brutish and degraded of the race. The same is true of Southern cities, where the worst element crowds in to live in a condition of filth and degradation that is appalling. The records of the Police Courts show that the proportion of crime committed by negroes are enormous. The Rev. L. E. Broughton preached a sermon recently in New York in which he said that more than 75 per cent of the crime committed in the South was perpetrated by negroes. Whether this is true or not the burden is heavy one, so heavy that communities which are not sharing it can not understand its severity.

It will be a good thing for the South if a larger proportion of the colored race moves North. This will render the work of educating them easier, and if they can get any share in industrial training it will be still better. By all means let the burden be shared by as much of the country as possible, and then it will be far better understood. It may be the fault of the whites that so much illiteracy and immorality exist, but if so, part of the blame must be cast north of the Mason's and Dixon's line.

Wayne MacVey might be arranged for a dual argument on Wednesday next, of Captain Carter's case.

WONDERFUL CURE OF DIARRHOEA.

A Prominent Virginia Editor Had Almost Given Up, but Was Brought Back to Perfect Health by Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy.

Richmond Times, Va.

I suffered with diarrhoea for a long time and thought that I was past being cured. I had spent much time and money and suffered an much misery that I had almost decided to give up all hopes of recovery and await the result, but noticing the advertisement of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and also some testimonials stating that some wonderful cures had been wrought by this remedy, I decided to try it. After taking a few doses I was entirely well of that trouble, and I wish to say further to my readers and fellow sufferers that I am a hale and hearty man to-day and feel as well as I ever did in my life. O. B. MOORE, sold by J. E. Curry and Company, Druggists.

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