

ARP GETS POETIC.

Bill Writes About the Flowers of Spring.

ALSO THE BIRDS THAT SING.

National Flowers of Civilized People. Entertainment Set. Arp to This Line of Thought.

It is not quite time to indulge in spring poetry. I tried it some years ago and strained my mind and shall not try it again. One poem is enough to make a man famous and I have never seen mine improved upon:

"The bull frog bellers in the ditches, He's shuffled off his winter britches, The hawk for infant chickens watcheth And fore you know it one he catcheth, The lizard is sunning himself on a rail,

The lamb is shaking his new born tail, King cotton has unfurled his banner And scents the air with sweet guanner, The darkey is plowing his stubborn mule

And jerks the line with "Gee, you fool."

Adown the creek and round the ponds Are gentlemen and vagabonds And all our little dirty sinners Are digging bait and catching minners

That is classic and expressive. It rhymes well and measures well and is considered the champion spring poem. But I will venture to make a few remarks about flowers, for as Solomon saith, "The winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time for the singing of birds is come and the voice of the turtle dove is heard in the land." It is an old story that when God made man and gave him hearing and seeing and taste and smelling, He created birds to sing for him and please his ears and grass to grow and herbs and trees to bear him fruit, but Adam wasn't very happy and said these are all very good, but they cannot love me nor talk to me, nor comfort me when I am sick and sad. I am here alone and not even your angels visit me. And so God took pity on him and created woman and then he was happy. But woman didn't care to be digging and hoeing and planting and looking after the sheep and the cows and so the Lord created flowers especially for her enjoyment. He also taught her to sing and make music on the harp and hence came the old tradition that woman and music and flowers were God's best gifts to man. You see that neither flowers nor music is mentioned in the Mosaic account of the creation and tradition says that they were not made until woman was. It is singular that in some of the ancient languages the same word that means woman means flowers too. Among the ancient Greeks, Roman's, Persians and Egyptians there was great reverence for and even idolatry of flowers. The lotus or sacred lily was worshiped as a god in Egypt. In Japan the chrysanthemum is equally sacred and nearly all of their female children are named for some flower. In all countries every temple service, every festival or banquet or sacred day—every birth or marriage or death or funeral ceremony calls for a profusion of flowers. When soldiers went out to fight and when they returned they were crowned with wreaths and garlands; strangers were given flowers when they came to see you. Every flower had its meaning and its sentiment, as for instance a red rose meant "I love you," a white rose "I will marry you." The Chinese make the most lavish use of flowers and have a Chinese alphabet of flowers. No modern nation has such love and taste for them nor such beautiful gardens and Japan comes next. China is called the Flowery Kingdom.

Almost all of the civilized nations have a national flower. Egypt, Turkey and India have the lotus, Japan the chrysanthemum, Spain the pomegranate, France the iris or fleur de lis of Louis VII. Napoleon I tried to abolish it and put the honey-bee instead, but the people rebelled and it is still the iris. Scotland has the thistle, Ireland the shamrock, Wales the leek, Mexico the cactus, Germany the corn flower, England the rose, and the United States none at all. In 1839 we tried to make it the golden rod, but failed. The north voted for the trailing arbutus and the rose and some green house flowers, and there was no flower elected. That trailing arbutus don't trail in this part of the country.

Well, of course, the rose is by universal suffrage the queen of all the flowers. About six hundred years ago the duke of Lancaster chose a red rose for his emblem. His brother, the duke of York, chose a white rose. The descendants of these two princes got to fighting for the crown and it was called the war of the roses. But after while the son of one married the daughter of the other and stopped the war and the two roses were united into one and called the Tudor rose.

In the eleventh century the Danes made war upon Scotland, and one dark night planned an attack upon a fortress that was the key to the whole country. They took off their shoes and breeches so as to swim across a moat that surrounded the fortress, thinking that the moat was deep and full of water. But the Scotch had nearly filled the moat with thistles, and it stuck the Danes so terribly that they yelled in agony and got out quickly and the Scotch took them unawares and killed nearly all of them before they could put on their shoes and breeches. The thistle saved Scotland, and so they took it for their national flower.

Away back in the centuries, when good St. Patrick went to Ireland as a missionary, he preached to them about the Trinity and how there were three persons in one God, and the people laughed at him and said it was impossible and they didn't believe it. So the saint picked up a shamrock stem with its three leaves growing out of it and exclaimed: "Why not? Why not? If God's little plant can make three from one, why can't God do it?" So he convinced and converted all that people,

and they took the clover or shamrock plant for the national flower.

In the sixth century the Normans invaded Wales, and just before a great battle one dark, cloudy evening the Welsh went through a field where the leeks or wild onions were in bloom, and every man plucked one and stuck it in his hat so as to distinguish their soldiers from the enemy, and by this means they whipped the fight and saved their country. After that they took the leek for their national flower.

When Napoleon Bonaparte overran Germany and the emperor and his family had to fly from Berlin and conceal themselves, he was awfully distressed and they liked to have perished. But his old mother made garlands of a little wild flower, known as the corn flower or kaiserblume, and put them on him and cheered him up, and when Bonaparte was vanquished the emperor adopted that little wild flower as the national emblem.

When Louis VII started out on the Crusades he chose the iris as his badge, and when he returned with his army it was adopted as the nation's flower. This is enough of national flowers. I wish we had one for our nation, and we will have one when this Federation of Women's Clubs takes hold of the matter, and I hope it will be the golden rod. It grows from Maine to Mexico and bends its graceful head in field and forest.

The reason I got to ruminating about flowers was because our good ladies gave an entertainment the other night which was quite original and peculiar. It was called the enchanted garden. There were twelve pretty flowers painted on a long curtain and in front of them was an old gardener teaching a pretty little girl her first lesson. He told her their origin and how they got their names and whenever he mentioned one of the flowers that was on the curtain and pointed to it, that flower disappeared as if by enchantment and in its place there appeared the face of a pretty girl or woman, who sang a song that fitted the flower—such songs as "Only a Pansy Blossom," "The Last Rose of Summer," "Pond Lillies," "A Bunch of Daisies," etc. At intervals between the songs, the old gardener told his pupils how Clyta-fell in love with Apollo, the god of the sun, and she gazed upon him so continually that he got tired of it and turned her into a heliotrope, for this Greek word means turned by the sun. And how Apollo's cup-bearer was a very handsome boy and Apollo loved him so much that another boy killed him through envy and his dead body was changed into a hyacinth.

The Greek spelling is Yachinthus and Apollo stamped the Greek letter Y on every petal, and it is there yet. And how a very vain and handsome youth spent all of his time looking at himself in a fountain of clear water and one day he fell in and was drowned and Apollo changed his body into a narcissus. And how the carnation was always a pink or flesh color for the Greek word carnos means flesh, but now it is of all colors. And how dandelion means a lion's tooth from the shape of its leaves, and the tulip means a tuban and the geranium means a crane's bill from the shape of its seed pods, and the nasturtium means a nose twister, for when you smell it or taste the seed the present odor and taste make you draw up your face and curl up your nose. And the old man told about many others, and it seems that we not only got the names of the days and the months and the stars from ancient mythology, but we have even kept the names of their flowers.

If flowers were as scarce as diamonds and pearls they would bring a much higher price, for they are really more beautiful. A kind Providence made the best and most beautiful things the most abundant so that the poor might have them as well as the rich. It does not take money to buy sunshine nor shower nor the green grass nor the songs of birds nor the daisies and lilies that adorn the fields and meadows.

The great poets' books are full of beautiful thoughts about flowers. Shakespeare's lament over the death of Imogen is full of tears and flowers. Horace Smith in his ode to flowers says:

"Your voiceless lips, oh flowers! are living preachers, Each cup a pulpit and each leaf a book."

Mrs. Herman says: "Bring flowers, fresh flowers, for the bride to wear; They were born to blush in her shining hair."

And Wordsworth says: "It is my faith that every flower that blooms enjoys the air it breathes and is conscious if its own beauty."

It was a tradition among the early Christians that when Mary, the mother of Jesus, fled with her child into Egypt beautiful roses and lilies sprang up and bloomed along her pathway as she journeyed through the plains of Sharon and Jericho. Woman and flowers are always found together, both in fact and in fancy. Some men like flowers, too, especially young men who are in love, but with many men dogfennel and gimpson weed are as sweet and pretty as roses and violets.—Bill Arp in Atlanta Constitution.

Engineer and Fireman Killed.

Griffin, Ga., Special.—A northbound passenger train on the Central Georgia Railroad ran into an open switch, half a mile below this city, colliding with a string of freight cars standing on the side track. None of the passengers were injured, but Engineer Ramsey and Fireman Green, of the passenger train were painfully hurt. The engine of the passenger train was partially demolished, and several freight cars wrecked. Traffic was blocked for two and a half hours.

A British Parliamentary paper containing dispatches and reports regarding the remount department in South Africa refers to the American mules as being the "best received from any source, magnificent workers, and kept in condition under the most adverse circumstances." The American horses, the report says, varied greatly, but the majority were excellent.

SOUTHERN INDUSTRIAL

\$200,000 Mill for Ga. Mention was made last month that Messrs. Douglas Boyd, J. M. Cham and others were organizing a company to build a cotton factory at Griffin, Ga. It is now announced that the required capital of \$200,000 has all been subscribed, and will be issued as \$125,000 of common stock and \$75,000 of preferred stock. Articles of incorporation have been prepared under the title of Boyd-Mingham Manufacturing and application has been filed with the charter authorities. The great portion of the capital is being furnished by local capitalists, but Eastern parties will also be interested as stockholders. As soon as a charter has been issued the company will make preparations to begin the construction of its plant. An equipment of 10,000 spindles and 300 looms is provided.

\$500,000 Company at Pell City, Ala. It was reported some weeks ago that Col. Sumpter Cogswell of Pell City, Ala., was negotiating with New England capitalists for the establishment of a large cotton factory at Pell City. The Pell City Manufacturing Co. has now been incorporated to erect and equip the plant, capital stock being placed at \$500,000. The incorporators are Messrs. Sumpter Cogswell of Pell City, C. R. Riley and W. R. Sears of Boston, Mass., G. W. Pratt, A. J. Draper, J. D. Judman and E. Chappell of Atlanta, Ga. It is stated that arrangements will be made to decide details and begin work this month.

Mill to Add Looms. Important betterments have been decided upon by the Knoxville Cotton Mills Co., of Knoxville, Tenn., and work on same has already begun. The company is building an addition two stories high, 90x109 feet, which will make its main building 100x220 feet in all. The principal machinery to be installed will be a sufficient number of looms (probably 2000) and manufacture into cloth the product of the present 10,000 spindles. About \$25,000 will be expended for the improvements. The plant is only a year old.

Textile Notes. Loray Mills of Gastonia, N. C., received an order last week for 2,000 bales of sheeting for shipment to Shanghai, China. About \$100,000 is probably involved in a contract of this extent. The Loray Company just started its plant in January, begun weaving in February, and in March sent samples of its product to the Shanghai trade. This order is a result. The mill has 50,244 rings, 24,000 spindles and 1680 looms.

Wm. Krenning has been elected treasurer and general manager of the Wytheville (Va.) Woolen & Mills Co., a concern which he founded and was not connected with for about a year. Mr. Krenning has a controlling interest in the plant. The plant consists of a complete set mill, manufacturing blankets, hosiery, etc.

Plant of the Great Falls Cotton Co., of Falls City, Tenn., was totally destroyed by floods in the last month. This was the first time the mill had ever sustained damage from high water. The company was capitalized at \$50,000, and does not intend to rebuild. H. L. King was treasurer.

Hawkins Manufacturing Co., of Hillsboro, Texas, has been organized with capital stock of \$15,000, for textile manufacturing, etc. The directors are Messrs. H. P. Hawkins, G. Hawkins, C. A. Sullenberger, W. R. Patterson, T. E. Tomlinson, E. B. Hughes and J. K. Parr.

It is proposed at Magnolia, Miss., to form a company with capital of \$50,000 or \$75,000 for the erection of a cotton mill. J. E. Wolfe is interested and is asking for full information as to cost of building, cost of machinery, date when machinery can be delivered, etc.

Cuero (Texas) Cotton Mill has arranged to install 3004 additional spindles, which will bring the equipment up to the capacity of the present buildings. There being now 2496 spindles in place, the increased equipment will be 5000 spindles; the looms at present number 160.

Messrs. H. E. Tener, Jr., L. L. Fleming, Paul Jones, W. S. Hanson, Geo. A. Mansfield, Melvin Conish, L. W. Bryana and W. H. Moore have incorporated the Indian Territory Cotton Products Co. of South McAlester, Okla., with a capital stock of \$250,000.

Knoxville (Tenn.) Woolen Mills is changing its looms so as to manufacture cassimeres instead of jeans, the original product. New looms are being installed, and the entire mill will soon be producing the new goods.

C. C. Newell of Utica, N. Y., is visiting Texas, and is said to contemplate the erection of a knitting mill at San Antonio, Waco or some other Texas point where proper facilities can be obtained. Mr. Newell is engaged in the knitting industry in his State.

Tennille (Ga.) Cotton Mills will probably be put in operation in the near future. Either the property will be sold to B. E. Willingham, a cotton-goods manufacturer of Macon, Ga., will take charge of the plant in the interest of the bond-holders.

W. P. Anderson of Westminster, S. C., contemplates building a knitting plant, to invest probably \$40,000. Manufacturers of the required machinery are invited to send catalogues and information.

Capitalists at Pine Bluff, Ark., have become interested in the proposition to organize a cotton mill company in their city, mentioned last week. J. D. Kennedy of Mammoth Springs, Ark., is promoting the enterprise.

A mill operator of the South contemplates erecting another mill, and may locate the plant at Newport, Tenn. It is possible that Hiram Gregg can give information as to the proposition.

It is rumored the Cheswell Cotton Mill Co. will double its plant of 6000 ring spindles and 178 looms at Westminster, S. C.

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Russian Ruler's Disfigurement. Jaropolk, one of the early rulers of Russia, had only about half a lower jaw, the remainder having been cut off by a saber stroke during a fight with the Turks.

The theatrical manager who has a full house should win out. So. 16.

Half-Sick

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HEALTH AND ALL ITS BLESSINGS

Health will come with all its blessings to those who know the way, and it is mainly a question of right-living, with all the term implies, but the efforts which strengthen the system, the games which refresh and the foods which nourish are important, each in a way, while it is also advantageous to have knowledge of the best methods of promoting freedom from unsanitary conditions. To assist nature, when nature needs assistance, it is all important that the medicinal agents used should be of the best quality and of known value, and the one remedy which acts most beneficially and pleasantly, as a laxative, is—Syrup of Figs—manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co.

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The excellence of Syrup of Figs comes from the beneficial effects of the plants used in the combination and also from the method of manufacture which ensures that perfect purity and uniformity of product essential in a perfect family laxative. All the members of the family from the youngest to the most advanced in years may use it whenever a laxative is needed and share alike in its beneficial effects. We do not claim that Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of known value, but it possesses this great advantage over all other laxatives that it acts gently and pleasantly without disturbing natural functions, in any way, as it is free from every objectionable quality or substance. To get its beneficial effects it is always necessary to buy the genuine and the full name of the Co.—California Fig Syrup Co.—is printed on the front of every package.

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