GREAT LEVEE CONVENTION ACCOMPLISHES ITS MISSION

Immense Gathering, Representing the World's Richest Valley, Makes Clear the Value of the Levee System ✤ Ohio Valley Linked to the Mississippi Appeal ✤ Protection of These Valleys a National Duty, and Immediate and Larger Appropriation a National Necessity ✤ ✤ ✤ ✤

There assembled and adjourned in New Orleans last week the greatest convention of its kind ever gathered together for a similar purpose in the history of this or any other nation—the meeting of the Interstate Mississippi River Improvement and Levee Association. The occasion at the beginning was made notable on account of the direct announcement by the president of the United States of his sympathy with the movement which the convention proposed to inaugurate, and his manly and patriotic letter of indorsement, which was read to the convention by Chairman Parker, of the Committee of Arrangements, aroused the delegates to the very highest pitch of enthusiasm.

The delegates represented fifteen States from the Mississippi and Ohio valleys, and included governors, senators, members of congress, high railroad officials and representatives of commercial exchanges and levee boards. President Fish of the Illinois Central railroad, Vice-President Thorn of the Texas Pacific, lesser officials of other trunk lines entering New Orleans, ex-Secretary of the Treasury Chas. S. Fairchild, Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, Judge Robert S. Taylor of the Mississippi river commission, Gov. Longino of Mississippi and Gov. Heard of Louisiana, Senator Berry of Arkansas, Senators McEnery and Foster of Louisiana, R. M. Edmonds, editor of the Manufacturers' Record, and hundreds of others were present.

It is believed many good and lasting results will come from this convention. The whole subject was more thoroughtly discussed than ever before, and it was the verdict of the great body that the time had come when the national government should take hold of the levee system and maintain it.

A new bond of unity was formed between the Ohio and Mississippi valleys by the unanimous passage of the resolution introduced by the Ohio valley delegates on the committee, placing their interests on the same footing with the lower Mississippi valley. The Ohio Valley Improvement Association, which has already secured over $22,000,000 Federal aid, and the Mississippi River Improvement and Levee Association will now work hand in hand and will go to Washington with a solid front and one purpose in view.

Federal control and the new alliance with the Ohio valley were two of the strong results of the convention.

Resolutions were adopted asking the national government to take charge of all the levee systems of the country, and, agreeble to this, a committee will go before the national congress, bearing the resolutions of the body, asking for ultimate Federal control of the levee systems and river improvements of the Ohio and Mississippi valleys, and urging immediate and larger appropriations for the perfection of the levee system.

Telegrams were read from twenty governors and 125 United States congressmen not only indorsing the work of the convention, but also pledging all possible support in Washington. That fact almost insures favorable results when the committee goes to the national capital.

The resolutions follow:

THE RESOLUTIONS.

First—After years of actual observation and experience, and supported by the opinions of all engineers, whether from the engineer corps of the army, or from civil life, who have been directly connected with the work of levee construction, we desire to affirm that we have the most absolute confidence in the sufficiency of levees, when built according to correct standards, to protect the Mississippi valley from overflow.

In support of this declaration, we beg leave to submit the following facts which have been fully established: An elaborate and careful investigation, made under the direction of the Mississippi River Commission, wholly disproves the notion, which still prevails to a considerable extent, that the immediate effect of levee construction is to cause the bed of the Mississippi river to rise. If this were true, it would necessarily follow that the levees would need to be continuously strengthened and elevated, and thus all hope of protection would have to be abndoned.

In the years 1881, 1882 and 1883 an elaborate survey was made of the river bed from Cairo to the Passes, a distance of 1,063 miles. Four cross-sections to the mile were made, and seventy-five soundings were made to each line. The result of this survey was carefully plotted, recorded and preserved.

In the years 1894, 1895 and 1896, after the lapse of a period of thirteen years, a still more elaborate survey was made of that part of the river bed between the Arkansas river and Donaldsonville, La., a distance of 472 miles.

While local changes in the river bed are necessarily constantly happening by reason of the gradual movement down stream of the bends, and accompanying bars and pools, they of themselves signify nothing. Yet a comparison such as that which has been drawn from the result of the two extensive surveys mentioned would necessarily furnish proof that the bed of the river was rising if such were the truth. So far from the comparison indicating such result from levee construction, it was discovered that there is a general tendency to the establishment of a more uniform channel in the depth and width and with greater capacity.

The comparison also brought to light the fact that the crests of the low-water bars, as well as those of the high-water bars, have been lowered.

If we turn to the

Evidence Afforded by the Records

of the numerous gauges established along the river, which have also been carefully recorded and preserved, we find that the low waters now are several feet lower than they were in the years preceding active levee construction, accompanied by an equal volume of water and an equal depth of channel. This unquestionably shows that the effect of levee construction has been to bring about a gradual depression of the river bed. This effect has been produced within the past few years, for prior to that time there was no restraint of the flood waters as could leave any impress whatever, one way or the other, upon the river bed.

The notion that the bed of the river is rising has been somewhat revived since the flood of 1903, because of the fact that, at certain points, the gauge reading showed not only unusually great elevation of the flood height, but irregular elevation. From this it has been deduced by some that at those places where the gauge readings were the highest, there had been, as the result of levee construction, an unusual deposit of silt, thus raising the bed of the river. A simple explanation will destroy this theory:

In 1880, when the levees were by no means continuous and were altogether insufficient to affect the flood plane in any degree, the first thoughtful and scientific observation of the river began. This was because of the fact that the Mississippi River Commission then entered upon the discharge of its duties. It was noted that the rise and fall of the river was very different at different points. It was observed that the greater annual oscillations, which were of about forty-five feet, were to be found at or near the mouths of the tributaries, such as the Ohio, the St. Francis, the Arkansas and the Red rivers. It was also observed that the lesser annual oscillations, which were of about thirty-five feet, were to be found at intermediate points along the fronts of the great basins drained by these tributaries, as for example, at Fulton, Memphis, Greenville, Lake Providence and St. Joseph.

A careful plotting of the gauge readings at that time exhibited a smooth and regular high-water slope, but an exceedingly irregular low-water slope. This was caused by considerable depression of the river bed at or near the junction with the tributaries of the river, and a considerable elevation of the bed along the fronts of the great basins between them. For this reason is was noted that the rise in high water was much greater where the bed of the river was depressed at or near the points of junction with its tributraies.

It was observed that the discharge at high water at these points, because of these depressions, was something like 1,500,000 cubic feet per second, while along the intervening basin fronts the discharge was several hundred thousand feet less. This difference in discharge, ranging from a quarter to a half million feet, was because of the escape of water over the river banks along these basin fronts. this escape of water undoubtedly caused the elevation of the bed along these fronts, which was noted, and we feel justified in affirming that when this escape shall have been permanently prevented by the construction of suitable levees, these elevated portions of the

River Bed Will Be Gradually Lowered

to conform to the bed at the points of junction with tributaries, thus making a regular low-water slope. When this shall have been accomplished, undoubtedly the lowering of the river bed will steadily go on.

It has also been noted that during the flood of 1903 the heights attained by the flood in excess of those hitherto recorded were greatest at the points along these basin fronts, as for instance, at Memphis, where the rise was three feet greater than any ever known.

The excess of the flood height at the points of depression referred to was nothing like so extreme.

We, therefore, declare that in our judgment there is no warrant whatever for the assertion that the effect of levee construction has been, or will be, to raise the bed of the river, but, on the contrary, it is our definite conviction that the effect will be to cause a general and considerable lowering of the bed.

Second—We also desire to express our firm opposition to all schemes for reducing flood heights of the lower river by the construction of reservoirs or so-called outlets. We refer to and indorse fully all that is said upon this subject by the very careful and able report submitted in 1898 by the Commerce Committee of the United States Senate, which is so complete and elaborate as to exhaust the consideration of the question. We will add that all schemes which have ever been proposed for the relief of the river in times of flood by outlets or reservoirs would either prove wholly inefficient, or would cost such vast sums and require such constant care and expenditures as to entitle them to no consideration.

Third—While the flood of 1903 was very nearly as great as that of 1897, and while the flood plane was greatly in excess of that of 1897, the protection afforded in 1903 over that of 1897 is so great as to satisfy the minds of all impartial investigators that so far as the test has gone the principle of protection by levee construction has been amply vindicated. In 1903 there were but six crevasses as against forty-three in 1897. With each recurring flood since levee construction began in earnest, the number of crevasses has grown smaller and smaller, and the protection afforded has grown greater and greater. As a result, investments of capital in all manner of industrial enterprises in the Mississippi valley have increased until they are almost fabulous. The low-lying back lands which prior to that date were regarded as valueless, are fast being occupied and converted into homes for the benefit of the people. Towns and cities have sprung up in every direction. Railroads now traverse the valley so that nearly every part of it is reached by them. All of this affords evidence of the strongest possible conviction on the part of the people that the time is sure to come when they will have absolute protection from the floods of the river.

Theorists may argue against

The Efficiency of Levees,

but they do so in vain. The strong common sense of the people responds by rejecting their theories. The work must go on. It cannot now stop. Too much money has been invested in levees to suffer them to be destroyed, and unless they are prosecuted to completion they will be destroyed. The enormous investments made because of them and in reliance upon their completion cannot in good faith be abandoned now to the devastation of the floods. We presume that no man can be found at this stage of the work to suggest that the plan of protection by levees should be abandoned, at least until a full and complete test has shown them to be impracticable.

Fourth—The following abstract of the report of the Mississippi River Commission just made and hardly yet published, gives the very latest opinion of the commission upon the levee question, and is so comprehensive and pertinent that we give it at length, towit:

"The past flood established, more clearly htan has any previous one, both the importance and the practicability of a complete and sufficient levee system. In its present condition, incomplete both as regards extension and dimensions, it gave substantial protection to three-quarters of the alluvial valley, and its interests, which under flood conditions without levees, would have been a lake from twenty to eighty miles wide from Cairo to the gulf. This improvement made during the past six years has reduced the number of crevasses between Cairo and New Orleans from thirty-eight to six. Of the area overflowed this year, five-eighths was the direct result of back water from the lower ends of the basins and overflow through unbuilt parts of projected lines and only three-eighths from breaks in the levees, notwithstanding their unfinished condition as regards both grade and section.

"Under these circumstances the importance of the earliest practicable completion of the work is apparent. If the flood damages of 1903 may be approximately estimated at five millions of dollars, the previous expenditure of that sum in permanent work would have largely, if not entirely, prevented them. Every year's delay in completion incurs the risk of similar loss. When the system shall have been completed, the cost will have been increased by many millions of dollars, and the development of the valley delayed by many years of anxiety and disaster, which could have been saved by continuous work on a scale commensurate with the importance and magnitude of the improvement. The State levee districts realize this. Most of them have anticipated their revenues as far as practicable, and several have now under consideration plans for such increase of resources applicable to the work as will shorten the time of completion. The commission is so impressed with this view of the subject that it considers it for the best interest of the work to now make contracts for levee coustruction to the extent of two million dollars as provided for in the River and Harbor Act of June 30, 1902, from the amounts to be appropriated for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1905, and June 30, 1906. Furthermore, it suggests that if congress should think proper to make additional provision for levee construction during the fiscal years ending June 30, 1905, and June 30, 1906, the sum of two million dollars in addition to the amounts already provided can be judiciously and advantageously expended during each year."

Fifth—In addition to the protection of the lands of the Mississippi valley from the floods, it is a matter of supreme importance that the mind of the nation should be kept constantly advised of the

Commercial Importance of the Mississippi

river as a highway of commerce. The marvelous growth of railroad building within the last quarter of a century has so diverted the attentiton of the public from the Mississippi river as a means of transportation that it has been to some extent lost sight of. It has remained, however, a constant safeguard against undue rates of transportation and promises, in the near future, to become once more as active a factor in interstate commerce as it ever has been in the past. This is owing, first, to the almost unparalleled increase in industrial activity throughout the valley; and, second, to the demonstration that, by means of hydraulic dredges a sufficient channel for low water navigation can be secured and maintained. We earnestly express the hope that the work of the Mississippi River Commission in this direction be pressed as rapidly as can be properly done, with a view to opening up the great river once more so that the people may fully enjoy the extraordinary facilities which it is capable of supplying for the cheap and steady exchange of their commodities. Levee construction, is undoubtedly, essential, even if all thought of reclaiming the fertile lands of the valley should be abandoned, for, without levees, all river commerce during periods of overflow would necessarily cease.

Sixth—The work of levee construction has been carried on by the cooperation of the United States government through the agency of the Mississippi River Commission, with the levee organizations of the several riparian States. Of the amount expended in this work, the government has contributed, in round numbers, about one-third. The people have subjected themselves to heavy taxation in furnishing their contributions until they have already overburdened their resources in this regard. It is the opinion of the residents of the great valley that the difficulties and magnitude of the work and the vast benefits to result from it, are such that, in common justice, the burden should be placed upon the strong shoulders of the Federal government, and that the work should be urged to speedy completion. By suitable annual appropriations, this can soon be accomplished, thus securing not only safety, but great economy. Therefore:

Resolved, That, in the judgment of this convention, the protection of the Mississippi valley form floods is of such national importance as not only to justify, but to make it the

Duty of the General Government

to undertake it and press it to the speediest possible completion. If, for any reason, the exercise of sole jurisdiction at this time by the general government, should not be deemed advisable, then this convention urges most earnestly that congress make, at its approaching session, such appropriations as are recommended by the Mississippi River Commission in its recent report.

Resolved, further, That the system of river improvements in the valley of the Mississippi from its head waters to the gulf and in the valley of the Ohio, and other tributaries, now provided for, and those which may hereafter be provided for by congress under the supervision of the United States engineers, meets our hearty commendation, and should be prosecuted to completion without unnecessary delay.

Resolved, That the attention of congress is invited to the serious disasters which have befallen those residing at or near St. Louis, Kansas City, and other localities by reason of the recent great floods, and the secretary of war is respectfully requested to cause an inquiry to be made with a view to the preparation of suitable plans for the prevention of a recurrence of such injuries.

Be it resolved, That the convention of delegates representing the States of the great Mississippi valley, from Duluth to the Gulf of Mexico, gives its unqualified approval to the movement for the construction of a waterway connecting the great lakes at the north with the Mississippi river and the Gulf of Mexico at the south.

We recognize the expenditure of thirty-five million dollars by the Sanitary District of Chicago as a practical demonstration in the furtherance of this project. We express the hope that the senators and representatives in congress from the various States represented in this convention will give their encouragement and assistance to congressional legislation in favor of the completion of the deep waterway, to which the State of Illinois and the Sanitary District of Chicago are committed as a matter of policy, and by great financial expenditures already made.

Resovled, That it is the sense of this convention that the work of the Interstate Mississippi River Improvement and Levee Association, under the wise and able guidance of its president, Charles Scott, has been of great and lasting value, and its continuance is a matter of vital importance, and that this organization, as it exists, with Charles Scott as its president, and J. W. Bryant and W. A. Everman as its secretaries, be continued, and that Charles Scott be authorized to appoint three members from each State as members of the Executive Committee of said Association.

DISCUSSED AND ADOPTED.

During the consideration of the resolutions many able speeches were delivered by distinguished men from all up and down the great river and its different tributaries—most of them for the resolutions as they came from the committee, but one or two against the idea of governmental control. The overwhelming sentiment of the convention, however, favored this idea, and the resolutions were finally adopted as read, and the convention adjourned sine die.

"Race Suicide's" Other Side.

It used to be said that it did not cost anything to raise a baby, but that, on the contrary, it was an investment. Such a proposition can no longer be maintained. Every baby costs a great deal of money. * * * Each baby cramps a little all that have come before it, with the result that the mother and father are soon obliged to sacrifice themselves almost entirely on the family altar. They must give up their comforts and pleasures; the mother must give up often even the necessities of life and take up its worst burdens in order that the children shall not suffer.

It makes me sick to look at friends of mine who ten years ago were young and happy and are now prematurely old and wan and sad. The young fellow who used to have the elastic step and the bright laugh is now gaunt and dyspeptic and has Populistic views of life. His wife, who was such a pretty girl, whom we all liked so well, who played and sang so nicely and was the charm of any social gathering, now looks like a little old hen. Her face is careworn; her look is haunted; she betrays every evidence of being drained mentally, physically and spiritually to minister to four or five youngsters who must have "the best" of things and who are lucky to get enbugh to make a decent appearance.

I presume that I am as fond a father as ever lived. I have four children; and if any of them were not welcome when they came, not one of them would be spared on any account. It happens that we are able to care for four, not quite in the style which two could have been maintained, but to all intents and purposes quite well enough for them and sufficiently well for us to maintain our social position, which is very dear to us, though to some such a statement may seem folly. If a time should come when we had to give up our present style of living (which, practically, means our friends, since in that event we would not and could not continue present relations with them), I would consider it perhaps the most serious day of my life. So far as can be judged at present, the only thing that might threaten such an event would be the appearance say of a couple of more children. I presume there are those who will think that this is an ignoble statement, but it is not only true, but it is true of about every family of which I have any personal acquaintance, except in those rare instances where there are no children at all. Nothing is sadder to me than a large family except one with no children at all.

I do not like to compare the president's expressions in his letters with the brutal sayings of Napoleon about the necessity of French women breeding soldiers, but there is altogether too much resemblance to suit me. I have for the president the greatest respect and * * * cannot believe that he wants to see the population of this nation grow simply because it will give us military strength. The fact is that we need better citizens, not more of them; and until there has been some way provided by which every child born into this world has as good a chance as it ought to have in the race for success I shall continue to hold to the opinion that the fewer there are in the family the better. President Roosevelt has a large family, but he has always had abundant means to care for them. If he could know the sufferings of poor women I do not believe he would encourage poor men to increase their families. —"Paterfamilias," in North American Review.

A Statesman's Remuneration.

"Doesn't it sometimes pain you to disappoint so many of the people who expect you to get them offices?"

"No," answered Senator Sorghum; "a man is bound to get disappointed sooner or later. As soon as a man gets an office he wants a better one, and so on. Sometimes I think that the fellow that never gets anything at all, but just stands around and hopes, is the one who does the best election work."—Washington Star.

"This book," began the agent. "Ain't got no use fur it," interrupted the busy merchant. "Judging from your remark, sir, you are not aware that this encyclopedia devotes at least twelve pages to 'Grammar.'"—Philadelphia Press.

James E. Dolan, of Syracuse, president of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, says that in the late Spanish-American war nine full American regiments were composed entirely of members of the order (all Catholics).

Has Become a Catholic.

We have seen it reported that ex-President Steyn of the Orange Free State has become a Catholic. The Southern Messenger, of San Antonio, states that this report has been confirmed.

TEXAS BOLL WEEVIL

Eats $30,000,000 Worth of Good Cotton Every Year.

His Appetite Will Make Clothing Prices Higher—Lone Star State Offers $50,000 Reward for a Way to Kill Him.

Housewives of America, you have a new insect enemy, and his name is Mr. Boll Weevil.

Now, don't run for the corrosive sublimate bottle, or the cute little blowgun full of insect powder, or the moth balls, or the sticky fly paper. He's not in your house, and you can't get at him.

Mr. Boll Weevil is busy eating cotton in the wide cotton fields of Texas. He eats cotton at the rate of $3,000,000 worth a year. If the time shortly comes when you have to pay seven cents, instead of five cents, for a spool of machine cotton, and from three to five cents a yard more for all the dainty dimities and lawns and organdies with which you delight to attire yourself and your sunny-haired little daughters, you will have only Mr. Boll Weevil to thank for it.

"Who is he, and where did he come from, and what has he done?" These are more interesting questions than you know. Here are some of the things he already has done, according to the Chicago American:

He has made W. P. Brown, chief factor in the cotton market, half a million dollars richer by the rise in cotton in a single day.

He has become so menacing that the state government of Texas has offered a reward of $50,000 for any means that may be devised to vanquish him.

He has caused a serious shortage in this year's cotton crop.

He has baffled the entomologists of the federal government in their efforts to check his ravages.

He has brought together a convention

THE BOLL WEEVIL.
(Cotton Eating Pest Magnified Over Fifty Times.)

of 500 busy men at Dallas, Tex., to plot his assassination.

And he is only a tiny bug.

The boll weevil is a beetle with a huge proboscis, and came originally from Mexico. The extension of cotton growing in the southern counties of Texas made a bridge for him to cross the Rio Grande, and he was first noticed in Bee county, Tex., in 1894. The agricultural department experts proposed to the Texas legislature to stop growing cotton along the river for two years, and starve the assassin out. "Who is going to pay the planters for this sacrifice?" asked the legislators.

Since then the beetle has traveled at the rate of 75 miles to the northward, and 25 miles to the eastward every year. On Texas soil the weevil has thrived like the rabbit in Australia, for the females lay 300 to 700 eggs a year. They develop with the cotton boll itself, and eventually blight it so that it does not open.

Latest reports say that the pest is present in Louisiana and Georgia, as well as Arkansas. Boll weevil news has become a factor in the stock market; the bears try to suppress it. Louisiana opinion is that the soil and the climate of the state will prevent any further spread there. Arkansas and Georgia confidently hope the same.

Insecticide does no good. Going over the field with revolving brushes that sweep off the affected plants is too costly. The hope that a certain "green bug" which was the natural enemy of the weevil had been found was soon dashed. The damage to the crop is $30,000,000 a year in Texas.

Last year a large number of representative cotton men, with government experts and entomologists to advise, met in Dallas to begin a systematic fight against the enemy. At their behest the state government offered $50,000 to any one who would find a remedy for the evil. Thousands of methods have been exploited, without anybody having a shadow of a claim to the reward.

The Dallas convention just held consisted of men representing the cotton interests, not only of Texas, but of all parts of the south and even the north. Texas to-day would doubtless give $10,000,000 as quickly as it would have given $50,000 a year ago for a remedy.

Human Ostrich Not Wanted.

Lee W. Wright, "the human ostrich," who eats oyster shells, pieces of glass, tacks, buckles, wire nails and tough articles of that kind, lately applied for a place as clerk in the Mobile post office. The officials deemed him an unsafe man to have around, and he was so informed.

Birds Fear Earthquakes.

During a recent earthquake in North Wales the birds showed signs of extreme terror. One would imagine that of all creatures, birds have the least reason to be afraid of an earthquake; yet it seems to affect them with the same violent fear as those which are tied to the earth.

Toad Shower in Utah.

During a thunderstorm in Weber county, Utah, the rain carried down millions of small toads, from an inch to an inch and a half in length. They were so deep on the highway that they clogged the wheels of vehicles, and it was with difficulty that teams could get through.

THE EARL OF SPENCER.

May Become Prime Minister of Great Britain If Liberals Return to Power.

According to all accounts, it is now practically settled that, should the liberal party return to power as the result of the present political crisis in Great Britain, the premiership will be handed over to the earl of Spencer, Lord Spencer, who for years has been a liberal of immense influence, is, perhaps, best known throughout the country for the vigorous policy pursued by him as viceroy of Ireland, but he also was a prominent member of two Gladstone cabinets, originally as first lord of the admiralty, and afterward as president of the council.

It can be said that the "Red Earl," as Lord Spencer is called, is the equal

THE EARL OF SPENCER.
(Acknowledged Leader of the Liberal Party in England.)

of Lord Rosebery, or Mr. Asquith, as a statesman, but he is regarded as the only liberal leader of the first rank under whom the various disagreeable factions of the party of Gladstone could work in harmony at the present time. It is practically certain that neither Lord Rosebery, nor Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the present liberal leader, would care to hold office under the premiership of the other, but pretty well authenticated report has it that both would be willing to hold portfolios in a cabinet presided over by Lord Spencer. In such case Lord Rosebery probably would become secretary of state for foreign affairs, while it is thought that Sir Henry would be made a peer, and thus transferred to the upper house, Mr. Asquith becoming leader of the house of commons, with the ticklish job on his hands of circumventing the assaults of Mr. Chamberlain, who would almost certainly be the leader of the opposition.

It has never been said of the "Red Earl" that he has had any great ambition for the premiership, and although he has held various offices in parliament and at court, he is much attached to the life of a country gentleman. He owns 27,000 acres in Northamptonshire, and his half brother is his heir.

ENTERPRISING BEGGARS.

Turkish Minister Thinks Mendicants of Philadelphia Are Nervier Than All Others.

Chekib Bey, the Turkish minister to Washington, attended in Philadelphia the recent launching of the Turkish warship, Medjidia, at the Cramps' shipyard. During the luncheon following the launch, Chekib Bey animadverted for a moment on the beggars of Phila-

CHEKIB BEY.
(Minister of the Sublime Porte to the United States.)

delphia. "You have here," he said, "an enterprising and intelligent collection of beggars. One of them approached me this morning. He told a moving tale of misfortune; then he asked me for a little money; I put my hand in my pocket to find that I was altogether out of change. 'My man,' I said, 'I have nothing for you now, but in an hour I shall be passing this way again. Then, I promise you, you shall get something from me.' 'All right, sir,' said the beggar; 'but all the same,' he added, fretfully, 'you wouldn't believe the amount of credit I give in this way.'"

WHAT IS A FLAT?

Tired Woman Defines It and Also Tells How It Is Distinguished from an Apartment.

"Won't some one please enlighten me as to the difference between a flat and an apartment?" plaintively inquired a woman who had just moved to the city at an afternoon tea. Everybody was willing to enlighten her, says the Chicago Tribune.

"Why, of course," said one, with an experienced air; "the flat has a set of speaking tubes and whistles and bells and things. When you want to get in you ring the bell and the door clacks, and you go in before the clacking stops. At an apartment house there is a hallboy to let you in, and usually an elevator and telephone besides—"

"No, you're wrong," came from a tired-looking little woman in a corner. "Those are only mere surface differences. A flat and an apartment may both have none or all of those things. The only real, heartrending difference is this: In a flat, it is not considered a heinous crime to have children; in an apartment it is. That's all. I've been hunting vines and fig trees lately myself, and I know. None of the fig trees I looked at would tolerate my olive branches; guess they don't grow in the same gardens any more outside of the Bible."

Mr. Jones—"It is useless my arguing with a woman who says she is always right." Mrs. Jones—"It never made any such assertion, and it's utterly cruel and unkind of you to say so. I did not say I was always right; I simply asserted that I was never wrong!"—Comfort.

Pearl Peach—Here is 10 cents, but I hate to encourage you to drink." Weary Walker—"All I need is de money. De encouragement is not necessary."—N. Y. Sun.

Putnam Fadeless Dyes color more goods, per package, than others.

Fair words never hurt the tongue.—Chapman.

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"Having taken your wonderful "Cascarets" for thirty months and being entirely cured of stomach catarrh and dyspepsia, I think a word of praise is due to "Cascarets" for their wonderful composition. I have taken numerous other so-called remedies but without avail and I find that Cascarets relieve more in a day than all the others I have taken would in a year." James McGune, 108 Mercer St., Jersey City, N. J.

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Pleasant, Palatable, Potent, Taste Good, Do Good, Never Sicken, Weaken or Gripe, 10c, 25c, 50c. Never sold in bulk. The genuine tablet stamped C C C. Guaranteed to cure or your money back.

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