

# THE SUBURBAN CITIZEN.

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Prince George's county is in a bad way. The sheriff and four of his companions are in jail under indictment for felonious assault on a young lady at Beltsville.

Hereafter the gold finder in Alaska will not have to spend all he earns, for the necessities of life are becoming as abundant and cheap in many parts of the Territory as they are in the older sections of the United States.

Professor Koch is now convinced that, in consequence of the discovery of the important role played by mosquitoes in the conveyance of the malarial poison, it will be possible by means of judicious measures to eradicate malaria in most localities.

Young Mr. Lemon, of Bloomsburg, Penn., has married a young lady of Orangeville. This has not been beaten since Mr. Stump, of Maryland, who was married to Miss Post by the Rev. Mr. Lockwood in a church in Garrison Forest, celebrated his wooden wedding.

The number of lives lost at Johnstown has never been accurately determined, but including those missing and who are believed to have perished in the flood the total is about 2300, while the damage done there to property is conservatively estimated at \$9,750,000.

According to the latest figures the money expended on the common school system of the United States is equal to the combined outlay for public education in Great Britain, France and Germany. The average monthly wages of the men teachers in America in 1907-08 was \$45.16, and of the women \$38.48. In that year of the 999,193 teachers employed only one-third were men. Twenty-one per cent. of the total population and seventy per cent. of the pupils of school age were registered in schools.

Twenty-five Laplanders, who were sent by the United States Government to Alaska over two years ago with reindeer, are on their way back home. The reindeer were to be used for food or as beasts of burden by starving Klondike miners. It was found that the miners were not in as bad straits as was supposed, and the Laps obtained employment as deer drivers and mail carriers, and now they are going back to their native land, taking with them from \$600 to \$700 apiece. At home they will be rich beyond the wildest of Laplander dreams. They and their families will live in luxury for years to come. Lucky Laplanders!

### SONG OF THE SWORD.

I remember the day that she hung me here  
On the wall by the musket's side  
And kissed my blade with a reverent touch  
For the honor of him who died;  
I heard her say that I served him well,  
And he trusted his life to me  
As he trusted my hilt with his daring hand  
And we swung to the victory.

She came to me in the dark alone,  
As the long years fluttered by,  
And I heard her song and I felt her kiss  
And I thrilled to her tender sigh;  
I knew that she saw us in visions sweet  
When the bugles blew to the charge  
And he swung me forth to the gleaming sun  
And I swept through the human target.

She came one day when her locks were gray  
And took me from the wall;  
She wiped the rust of her tears away,  
For again rang the bugle call;  
She laid my hilt in a stalwart hand—  
My master's son, I knew,  
And the drums awoke and the troops marched by,  
And the trumps of the battle blew!

I leaped to the life of the battle-roy,  
The spirit of strife awoke;  
I danced in the light of my blade that shone  
Through the flame of the battle-smoke.  
My steel rang clear on the foeman's steel,  
Then, stiffened and cold and still,  
I felt the clasp of the hand that had drawn  
My blade with a hero-will.

I am hanging again on the chimney wall;  
The summers have bloomed and fled;  
There are two "neath the hill that are slumbering sweet—  
The dead that are greatly dead!  
Sweetheart, mother, she softly glides  
Through the shadows wherein I hang,  
And lays her ear to my blade to hear  
The echo of battle's clang.

Her lips are warm with the breath of love;  
Oh! woman who gave her brave  
To her country's call and the battle thrall  
And the peace of the soldier's grave!  
She breathes her prayer in her tender way,  
And listens to hear me tell  
How fierce they rode to the lines of death,  
How nobly they fought and fell.

Her gray head bends to the song, the dusk  
Steals silently through the room;  
The birds are asleep in their little nests  
Where the cannon were wont to boom.  
Her cheek is soft on my polished face,  
Her pale hand clasps me,  
Ah! worn, wan lady, you're dreaming to-night,  
And the dead have come back to thee!  
—Folger McKinsey, in Baltimore News.

### THREE RINGS

MANY years ago there lived in an Eastern land a nobleman who owned a ring of priceless value. The stone was a large opal, which reflected many various and brilliant hues, but far more precious than the beauty of gems of gold was the magic power hidden in the ring of making its wearer beloved by his fellow-men.

The nobleman, who was the happy owner of the ring never removed it from his finger, and was resolved that after his death it should also remain in the possession of his own family. So he bequeathed the ring to the one he loved best among his sons, with the condition that he in turn should bequeath it to his favorite son, and so through all succeeding generations. The inheritor of the ring was always sure to be beloved by all who knew him, and was, besides, to be considered as the head of the family without regard to birthright.

After being handed down in this way through several generations, the ring came at last into the possession of a father who had three sons, all equally obedient and loving and all equally dear to him. Many times did the father try to decide in his own mind to which of his sons he should bequeath the ring, but as he loved them all equally he could not choose between them.

Being one day alone with his eldest son he promised him that he should inherit the ring, and at another time to the second son, seeming to him the most worthy, he made the same promise, and even did the same another day to the third son. Soon after this he was attacked by an illness, and feared that his end was drawing near, yet he was still unable to decide to whom he should really leave the ring, feeling so unwilling to deprive two of his sons of that to which all seemed to have an equal claim. At last, in the midst of his perplexity, a new idea struck him, and he sent secretly an order to a jeweler to make two rings after the pattern of the magic ring, and to spare no expense or pains to make them exactly like it.

The jeweler was very skillful, and succeeded so well in his task that when he brought the two rings he had made, and showed them to the nobleman with the original ring, the latter could not discern which of the three was the true one. He paid the jeweler a large sum of money for his work, and dismissed him. Then he called his eldest son to him, and took a tender farewell of him, bestowing upon him his blessing and one of the rings, which the son of course supposed to be the true and only one. He next sent for his second son, and spoke privately in the same way to him, giving him also a ring; and so with the third, and soon after this he died.

His sons buried him with great pomp, and when the funeral was over the eldest son spoke to his brothers and to the friends who were assembled and claimed to be the head and ruler of the family, as being the possessor of the ring. He was happy in the feeling that, besides bestowing upon him this power, his precious ring would cause him to be so beloved by all that no one would envy him the position he claimed, and he resolved in his own heart that he would be so loving and kind to his brothers and so good to all around him that he should

always show himself worthy of his father's choice.

Great was the astonishment of the other brothers, and all were amazed when each showed his own ring and told of his father's last words to him and made the same claim that the eldest had made.

Then arose an eager discussion; the rings were examined, and it was found impossible to distinguish the magic ring from the others, and the brothers determined to bring the matter before the judge. The judge questioned all the brothers closely, but each one affirmed exactly the same thing, that the father had privately promised to give the ring to him alone, and that upon his deathbed he had sent for him and had actually given him the ring.

Not one of them was willing to believe that the father had deceived him in the matter, but each was more inclined to suspect his brothers of bringing forward a false claim, supported by a ring which he pretended to be the true one. But even this they were very unwilling to believe, for the brothers had always lived in mutual love and trust.

The judge was at first much perplexed, and exclaimed, angrily: "Do I sit here in the seat of judgment to unravel all the riddles that foolish people may bring me? I cannot pronounce which is the true ring and who is the true head of the family. But stay," he continued, "you tell me that the true ring possesses the magic power of making its owner beloved. This must decide it, then, for the false rings can never have such power. Now, say which of you is most beloved by the other two? Speak—you are silent. Do the rings, then, only work inwardly upon yourselves, so that each one loves himself best? Oh! then you are all deceived, and deceivers, too! Doubtless the true ring is lost, and your father has bestowed upon each of you a false ring.

"So if you wait here to hear my sentence you wait in vain, but if you seek my advice, I will gladly give it you. My counsel is this: Return to your home and cease your strife. Each one has received a ring from his father; let each one believe his ring to be the true ring; and in order to prove to others the truth of his claim let each one strive to make himself the most beloved; let him show a gentle, generous spirit, a noble forgetfulness of self, sympathy with others, truth, fidelity, modesty and, above all, piety toward God. So will he who excels most in these virtues be the most beloved, and so will all see plainly who is the owner of the true ring."

The brothers returned to their home and followed the wise counsel of the judge. They vied with each other in showing an amiable, unselfish temper, until, by the constant practice of the virtues which the judge had recommended to them they grew so unselfish that the dispute about the ring was forgotten, and they passed their lives together in harmony and happiness, and so the deceit of their weak and unprincipled father had a better result than it deserved.—New York News.

### The Lawyer's Right to Weep.

The Supreme Court of Tennessee has decided that a lawyer has the right to shed tears to influence the verdict of a jury, and, in fact, says that if he can bring tears to his eyes at will he is delinquent if he neglects to do so. The case was one in which the defendant had appealed on the ground that the weeping of the attorney for the plaintiff had unduly influenced the jury. The court found that the point had never been raised before, and asserted that the manner of defense must be left largely to the judgment of attorneys. "Some," said the judge, "deal wholly in logic argument without any embellishment. Others use rhetorical and occasional flights of fancy and imagination. Others rely upon noise and gesticulation, earnestness of manner and vehemence of speech. Others appeal to the passions, prejudices and sympathies of the jury. Others combine all of these modes." He declares that no cast iron rule should be made, but that tears have always been considered legitimate arguments before a jury, and would appear to be one of the natural rights of counsel, as it would be difficult to decide whether or not the emotion was natural if such a point should be raised. He says a trial judge should not interfere with the shedding of tears unless they are indulged in to such an excess as to "impede, embarrass, or delay the business before the court."—Chicago Tribune.

### Suspicious Liberality.

"It was a mean trick," said Jones, with a smile, "but I wanted my wife to come home, and it was the only way that I could think of to get her back. She went away about five weeks ago on a vacation, and left me alone to get along as best I could. It wasn't long before I grew tired of the arrangement, tired of getting my meals down town, tired of sending checks in reply to her demands for more money. Three days ago I received a letter asking me to send her \$25 at once. It was then that my plan suggested itself. By return mail I sent her a check for double the amount that she had asked for, and enclosed it with a note that read: 'Don't hurry back.'"

"It worked as I thought it would. My wife returned by the first train with a strange gleam of inquiry in her eyes and a set about her lips that bodes trouble for me if she confirms the horrible suspicions that she is laboring under. However, I have her at home, and I am not losing any sleep over what she may suspect."—Detroit Free Press.

## Good Roads Notes

### Solving a Vexatious Question.

MORSEMEN, bicyclists and automobile owners are still trying to solve the vexatious question of good roads. All agree that the country should contain enough good roads, so that everybody who wishes to move about either for business or pleasure should have an opportunity of doing so with the greatest possible comfort and economy. But what kind of a road will best suit all persons is the question on which all seem to split. The farmers declare that the roads ought to be of stone so that farm produce may be taken to market for twelve months in the year instead of for only nine months, the time in which a dirt road may be used ordinarily by the farmers. The farmers put up a strong argument saying that the farmer is the backbone of the Republic, and that when the farmer does not prosper, there can be no general prosperity. Then the bicyclist comes along with a splendid argument to show that a stone road joggles too much for the wheelmen. The cyclists declare that the road ought to be either of ordinary dirt or of macadam where it will not pay to have asphalt pavements for the wheelmen. The automobile men who are now rapidly increasing in numbers, rather side with the farmer who needs a rock road that can be used in all kinds of weather, but the driver of light harness rigs or the rider of horse steps into the contest and declares that stone roads injure all horses that have to travel faster than a slow jog trot. The horsemen declare that the stone pavements breed all kinds of trouble for horses that travel moderately fast, including the horses driven by tradesmen and deliverymen. The injury of the stone roads, they declare, are to the foot, leg and lung. Dr. H. H. Kane, President of the Drivers' and Riders' League, of New York, is out with a statement on this subject, which will no doubt attract the attention of all classes concerned, and which may lead to a compromise in the demands made hereafter by the various organizations with the happy result that everybody will get some of the things he desires even if he does not have the whole road to himself. The plan proposed by Dr. Kane is as follows: First, there should be one road along the main artery of traffic to and from the principal markets built of stone for the farmers and all others who have to do heavy trucking; second, on either side of this stone road should be a dirt road about eight feet wide for the special use of horsemen and all kinds of harness vehicles. The dirt road might in most cases suffice for the wheelmen, but in case there was any unusual demand for increased space for bicycle riders, Dr. Kane would recommend that on the outside of the dirt road there should be a specially constructed bicycle path. This plan of having a complete road, the horseman thinks, would give every class of road users the kind of a road it needs, and would insure harmony among all road users. He says that the members of the L. A. W. are strong enough generally to get what they wish, and in some sections the farmers prevail and they get what they wish. The riders and fast drivers, he says, have never made much united effort to get what they want, but he believes the time is coming when such action will be necessary for the preservation of valuable horseflesh. He contends that the proposed plan would enable the farmers, the wheelmen, the drivers and riders, as well as the automobile men to work together for a composite road—centre stone, eight feet on each side dirt, and bicycle paths on the outside.—New York Sun.

### Convicts and Good Roads.

The agitation of the League of American Wheelmen to have convicts used in building public roads is slowly making headway. On this subject the New York Post recently contained the following:

"The League for Good Roads, in Oneida County, reports favorably on the experiment of employing convicts on road-making. Under the direction of the Board of Supervisors and the superintendence of a trained engineer, the county prisoners have constructed a macadam road, one and three-tenths miles long, through the village of New York Mills, near Utica. The county authorities made a contract with the road district, whereby it was to furnish laborers at twenty-five cents a day, and allow the use of its stone crusher, steam-roller, etc., free of charge. The road district furnished the necessary fuel and material, and paid for supervision. The cost of the road was about \$5875, or \$4500 a mile, and the total cost was only three times the amount of the annual road tax. As it will cost only \$250 a year to keep the new road in repair, the annual saving will amount to about \$1850, and after the cost has been repaid the taxpayers will be delivered to this extent, or the money can be devoted to other improvements. While this road was building the State authorities were constructing a similar one of equal length, which was to cost, at the contract price, \$9000."

### Saved by a High Collar.

A high collar saved the life of a young woman of Vermont when her husband tried to cut her throat. This shows that high collars have their uses—if young women do not learn to use more discrimination in the choice of husbands.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

### The Population of Zululand is 150,000, of whom only 500 are Europeans.

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### FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

#### In honor of the birthday of the King of Portugal 10,000 British cavalry paraded at Komati Poort.

The Canadian contingent of troops that fought in South Africa sailed from Cape Town for England.

The United States received more awards at the Paris Exposition than any nation except France.

Great Britain shows distrust of Li Hung Chang, because of his apparent close relations with the Russians.

It was reported in Paris that the King of Belgium intends to abdicate in favor of the Prince of Flanders.

The Yamagata ministry in Japan having resigned, the Mikado has summoned Marquis Ito to form a cabinet.

Prince Inkanthos, son of the King of Cambodia, after playing a trick upon the French government, has disappeared from Paris.

It is evident that the foreign powers will all follow the example of the United States and send large naval forces to Chinese waters.

In the British parliamentary elections sixty-six candidates have been returned unopposed, of which number fifty-nine are ministerialists.

It was officially announced in London that Lord Roberts had been appointed commander-in-chief of the British Army, succeeding Lord Wolseley.

The Presse, of Paris, published a letter from Alfred Dreyfus to M. Trarieux, in which the former declares that he is still aiming for vindication.

Belaunde, the former Minister of Finance of Peru, has been arrested upon allegations of fraud. Other members of the Cabinet have resigned, and leading newspapers are urging President Romana to also resign.

### Hay Makes a Dental.

Washington (Special).—Secretary of State Hay returned from his summer vacation in New Hampshire and occupies his desk at the State Department. Dr. Hill, who has been acting secretary the latter part of the summer, called early in the evening and spent several hours with the secretary. To all other callers Secretary Hay excused himself. There were no new advices awaiting him.

He expressed his satisfaction with the steps taken by his government, and gave a final and emphatic denial to the allegations recently set afloat that there were differences of opinion between himself and others of the administration on our policy toward China. He reiterated the statement of Dr. Hill that the secretary had been in constant touch and communication with the department during the progress of the negotiations and was in thorough accord with the action of this government in every phase of the situation.

Mr. Hay said he "was in the usual health of a man of his age."

### Caught by the Belt.

Fairmont, W. Va. (Special).—Edwin Devaul, aged 40, a laborer working in Rogers & Jacobs' saw mill, near Smithtown, this county, was caught by the belt which operated a large saw. He was hurled to the ceiling, crushing his skull, death resulting in a few hours.

### Civil Service Record.

Washington (Special).—Mr. John B. Harlow, acting president of the Civil Service Commission, has written a letter to the special committee of the National Civil Service Reform League, of which Mr. Charles J. Bonaparte is chairman. In his letter Mr. Harlow declares to be unfounded the charge that information has been denied to the representatives, and declared the board to be in favor of the greatest publicity in its records consonant with the good of the public service.

### Money Order Report.

Washington (Special).—Auditor Cashier for the Postoffice Department finished the tabulated statement of the money order business of the country for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1900. The statement exhibits a marvelous increase in the money order business, and taken in connection with the receipts and expenditures of the postal service proper, not yet accurately ascertained, shows that the transactions of this great business institution are rapidly approaching the billion dollar mark per annum.

### SITUATION IN CHINA.

The Russians have invested Mukden, the capital of the province of Liao Tung.

Chinese officials say that the Emperor and the Empress Dowager, in their flight from Peking, suffered great hardships.

Sir Ernest Mason Satow, recently appointed British minister to China in succession to Sir Claude Macdonald, has arrived at Shanghai on his way to Peking.

The State Department received advices from the Consul General at Shanghai confirming the report of the massacre of the missionaries at Kuchau.

Field Marshal von Waldersee will occupy one of the imperial palaces in the Forbidden city. The Americans disapprove of this plan, but will enter no protest.

The orders to General Chaffee to send troops from China to Manila, when announced in Tien Tsin, caused a sensation among the representatives of the other powers.

The American naval fleet in Asiatic waters, when reinforced, will assemble about Amoy to impress upon the other powers that American trade interests will be protected.

Great Britain, Russia and France stand with the United States as opposed to the German proposition making punishment of the Chinese ring-leaders a condition precedent to peace negotiations.

A dispatch from Tien Tsin states that General Chaffee has ordered the Fifth Marine Battalion to prepare to accompany a combined land and naval expedition of the allied forces to Shan Hai Kwan, on the Gulf of Liao Tung.

The Chinese minister, Wu Ting Fang, at Washington, strongly approves of a suggestion by Li Hung Chang that the United States act as mediator for the settlement of the entire Chinese question.

The Emperor and Empress Dowager have issued a decree blaming the Chinese ministers for encouraging the Boxers. Prince Tuan and four other princes have been degraded. This is in line with the demands of the United States.

M. de Giers, the Russian minister, and the entire Russian legation have left Peking for Tien Tsin. A cable message from General Chaffee is daily expected in Washington announcing the departure of the American troops from China for Manila.

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