

The "Louise Home" at Washington.

BEAUTIFUL for situation is this pleasant home, founded by W. W. Corcoran, for the benefit of widowed women who have been in better circumstances.

It was at a famous watering-place that a lady, celebrated for her affluence and liberality, said to him, one day:

"Mr. Corcoran, I hear you are building a house for decayed gentlemen."

"That is my purpose," was the reply.

"Well, Mr. Corcoran, if I ever become a pauper, will you take me there?"

was her laughing question.

"I invite you here and now," was the answer.

Most singularly the lady is now, or has been, an inmate of the Home, though the question was asked without the most distant thought that the consummation would ever arrive.

The rich dresses, the diamonds, a superb position, are given up forever. They could not keep the wolf from the door, but no wolf can trust its gaunt face in the doors of the Louise Home.

The visitor is shown the fine hall, which is in the shape of an oblong square, and open to the roof. A friend who visited with me, a traveled man, said that it reminded him of some of the old Moorish palaces he had seen abroad.

Some four or five galleries connect with the rooms in the upper stories. These are beautifully decorated, light and open, and form a great attraction to the inmates and visitors of the Home.

Chaste paintings adorn the walls, among them a superb copy of Beatrice Cenci, and an original "Judith" by one of the old masters.

All the apartments on the ground floor bear witness to the founder's artistic taste in the matter of pictures.

We were conducted through the various places of interest by one of the inmates, a lady whose striking and picturesque appearance reminded us of the days when the stately Mrs. Madison held her court.

The bright black eyes of our conductor sparkled under a small turban of snowy whiteness, as she related several things in connection with the great charities for which Mr. Corcoran is famous.

We stood before the portrait of his wife, one of the loveliest faces I ever remember to have seen. It represents a lady in the costume of over fifty years ago, whose soft blue eyes beam upon one like those of a saint from heaven.

"I want to tell you a little incident connected with that picture," said one of the lady inmates, "which produced an impression upon me which I never can forget."

"One Christmas week we were all busy putting up decorations of laurel and pine. Mr. Corcoran was moving hither and thither, suggesting this and approving that. I was at work in the parlor, ornamenting one of the paintings, when he came in, and must have been concealed by the alcove yonder. He held his hat in his hand and moved thoughtfully forward till he stood before the picture of his wife.

Then his face assumed an expression of the deepest sadness. I did not dare move, for I could see the tears glistening in his eyes. After he had gazed for several moments, with a sort of sob, he exclaimed—

"Beautiful, beautiful creature! So young and so lovely! and you left me so long, long ago!"

This did the man, still the lover in his eightieth year, do homage to the wife of his youth, for whom he has been a life-long mourner.

"Since that time," continued the narrator, "I have looked upon him with more reverence than ever before."

Opposite the portrait of his wife, Louise, is one of his only daughters, of the same name, long since dead, a face quite as beautiful as that of her mother.

Nearly all the furniture of the parlor belongs to her, and was understood nearly all imported from Paris. There stands her piano; her music-rack and music near by; her work-table and other mementoes which a father's loving care has preserved, and given for the use and comfort of those who can no longer care for themselves.

The matron of this establishment is called by the inmates "our sweet young mother." She is a lovely woman, dignified and gentle in her manners, and wins the hearts of all who approach her.

"Would you like to see our rooms?" she asked, and we, of course, gladly assented. Mounting the first flight of stairs, we were ushered into an apartment of fair size and neatly furnished.

The inmate, a lady of some sixty years, rose at our entrance with a courteous greeting. The appointments and ornaments of the room showed that the woman before us was a good Catholic, and of gentle blood. Her mother's portrait hung against the wall, and was painted in England, I think she told me, at the beginning of the present century, by one of the famous names of Europe—I have forgotten which.

But the picture was a work of art; the bands of powdered hair towering from the brow, the old lace, the delicate draping, all betrayed the finest touches of genius.

The lady herself left us to tend the cage of a little canary, dying of old age, and to which she seemed much attached.

"I watch it the last thing at night," she said, with a voice full of genuine pathos, "and every morning as soon as I wake I look to see if it is alive. I have had it so long as a companion that when it does die, I shall feel as if I had lost a friend."

We went from there to take a peep into other rooms in which flowers and sunshine predominated, and placid old faces smiled upon us; and I blessed in my heart the man who has found out how to make happiness on earth which he himself lives to enjoy, and who has given of his bounty to those whose silver hairs will go down in blessings and rejoicing to the grave.

No wonder he loves to spend his Christmas days and his birthdays among hearts he has made so happy, so free from care, in the home he has created for them.

Our last visit was to the dining-room, where tables were set for forty. Every thing there indicated refinement and comfort. A sunny, well-furnished room, linen covers, sideboards, closets for silver and china, and what peculiarly attracted our notice, a rich little tea-service of silver—a recent gift of Mr. Corcoran, for those ladies who might be too ill to come down to meals, and which

was to be sent up to their rooms. Can any thing surpass the tenderness of his solicitude for age and infirmity?

Surely there can be no greater happiness this side of heaven for any man than to receive the blessings and congratulations of those who owe to him all that makes life desirable in an earthly sense, and to feel that what God has given him he has bestowed with a liberal hand without hope of reward.—Youth's Companion.

The Education of Girls.

It is maintained alike by parents and doctors, by school-teachers and school managers, says an able writer in the London Saturday Review, that the standard of girls' education, whether in secondary or elementary schools, has been placed unduly high, and the facts brought forward in support of this position seem to be beyond dispute. There are several reasons why the danger should be greater for girls than it is for boys. In the first place, the brain power in girls is developed earlier and is stimulated by a greater degree of nervous energy. A very eminent physician has said that women are now aiming at doing every thing that men do, and that to each thing that they aim at they bring twice the amount of eagerness that men bring. Unfortunately, in spite of all that the advocates of the equality of the sexes can say, women are not the equals of men as regards physical strength; and when they try to do to the same amount of work, and throw double mental strain into the effort, the result will inevitably be seen in one form or another of physical or mental disease. What is true of women as compared with men, is still more true of girls as compared with boys. A more precocious growth of brain power naturally leads, unless very great care is taken, to an equally precocious accession of brain exhaustion. In the second place, the education of girls is governed by less rational principles than that of boys. Generations of school-masters have pretty well discovered what boys can advantageously do, and what they can not. Good girls' schools are things of yesterday. Every thing about them is still in the experimental stage. Enthusiastic head-mistresses are keenly alive to the amount of leeway there is to make up, and they have not yet learned that an increase of speed which runs the ship upon a rock is only a proof of bad seamanship.

Mrs. Garrett Anderson tells a story which, if we had not her authority for it, would be hardly credible. "A little girl of 11," she says, "attending one of the best day schools, was obviously finding it very difficult to overtake her work." Considering that one part only of her work was, it would be odd if she had not found it hard to overtake. The German lesson she had to prepare out of school hours included the translation of a part of English into German, and of a page of German into English, together with the learning by heart of nine irregular verbs and two pages of phrases. Of course all this work was in addition to the child's ordinary work in English and French, and probably the usual accomplishments of music and drawing were not neglected. This was in no sense an exceptional case, at all events in this particular school, for when the child's mother remonstrated with the schoolmistress, all she said was, "Ah, Fraulein is apt to give too long lessons."

As Mrs. Garrett Anderson justly says, with a careless mother, the child would have gone on attempting to do this monstrous task; and where children's education is concerned, there are as many careless mothers now as ever there were. The only difference there is, that, whereas formerly they did not care how much a child knew, they now do not care how much a child does. Unfortunately there is little reason to hope that even medical warnings will have much effect. The doctor is sent for when the child is ill and dismissed when the child gets well, and, as soon as his back is turned, all that he has told the mother is too often forgotten. The child must go to school because it is inconvenient to keep her at home, and while at school she must learn what other children are learning. Otherwise the mother would have to take special trouble in the matter. She would have to ascertain how much work the child was doing, and with how much ease she seemed to do it. Then she would have to make special arrangements with the schoolmistress, who, especially if the child were clever, would naturally wish to press her on, and all this would probably have to be done in the teeth of the child's own desire to keep abreast of her companions.

A process of this kind involves a good deal more thought and labor than many mothers care to give to their children's health. It is so much easier to say that what is done by all children can not be very injurious to one, and in this comfortable conviction to allow things to take their course.

A Lost Child's Experience.

On Thursday of last week over 1,000 persons went on the second free excursion for poor mothers and children to the Avondale excursion grounds.

Among the number was Mrs. Wagner with her six children. One of these children, a son, aged four years, was missed soon after landing, and all efforts to find him proved futile. It was supposed that the child had been drowned, but at the earnest solicitation of the parents the Avondale grounds and its surroundings were carefully searched for several days by detectives and others from the city, but no trace of the missing boy was found. This morning a gentleman passing a marsh adjoining the Avondale grounds heard a noise in the rushes, and going to see the cause, discovered the little boy sunk in the mire above his waist, where he had probably been without food or shelter since Thursday last. The little fellow was much emaciated and was taken to the Avondale House, where he received medical attention, and it is thought will recover.—Baltimore News.

KING LOUIS, of Bavaria, is an uncomfortable sort of ruler. He has an unpleasant habit of rising very late in the morning and not going to bed until the following morning, which involves sending for his Secretary in the middle of the night to transact state business. The unfortunate official always finds His Majesty on the alert and vigorous as a bird at cock-crow.



MAJOR-GENERAL W. S. HANCOCK.



WILLIAM H. ENGLISH.

THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES.

The Ticket.

From whatever point of view we consider it, the nomination of Hancock and English must be pronounced the most available that it was in the power of the Cincinnati Convention to make. In the first place, it will command the support of the whole Democratic party. There is not to-day anywhere within the ranks of that organization the least division of sentiment, or dissension growing out of a conflict of interest. When Mr. Randall took the platform, amid the cheering of the Convention, to second the motion to make the nomination of General Hancock unanimous, he gave by that act a guarantee to the party that the Wallace and Randall wings of the Pennsylvania Democracy should thereafter move in harmony, uniting the best efforts of both to secure the Electoral vote of their State for its most distinguished citizen. It is now probable that General Hancock will carry Pennsylvania. But the reconciliation of Tammany and Irving Hall, through the persons of Mr. Kelly and Mr. Fellows, is even more significant and cheering. New York is now as sure to cast her thirty-five Electoral votes for the Cincinnati nominees as is either Kentucky or Missouri. Mr. Tilden, Senator Bayard, Judge Furman, Judge Field and other eminent Democrats whose names were considered by the Convention, will strive with generous rivalry to surpass each other in strengthening the hands of the man to whom have been confided the standard of their common party. General Hancock's public life has been apart from theirs, and the reasons for his nomination do not reflect in the slightest degree upon the claims of any one of them.

The important State of Indiana has not been overlooked. Her value to the Democratic party has been recognized in the nomination of one of her favorite sons to the Vice-Presidency, and her people must be proud of their ability to furnish a name worthy to be coupled with that of Hancock, and which will, at the same time, add strength to the ticket. Mr. Hendricks being unwilling to take the second place, Mr. English was, all things considered, the most available candidate for the position in the whole list of possible nominees.

The fact that the Electoral vote of New York and Indiana added to that of the Southern States would suffice to elect the Democratic nominees seemed to render it advisable that the ticket should be made up from those States; but complications which could not be obviated made it inexpedient to look to New York for a name for the first place. The nomination of General Hancock, reuniting the divided Democracy of that State, relieves the embarrassed situation there, while it increases the chances for success in all the Northern States. The ticket has been given to Pennsylvania and Indiana under more auspicious circumstances than it could have been given to New York and Indiana.

The soldier vote in the North is an immense element of strength, and General Hancock is a military hero, beloved

above all men by the thousands with whom in old days he shared the fortunes of war and the perils of battle. A Union soldier, with a record so unimpeachable, so exceptionally brilliant, at the head of its column, the Democracy gives the country the best possible assurance of its devotion to the perpetuity of the Federal compact. Of the man himself there is no need to add a single eulogistic phrase. His fame is world-wide, and in this country his name is a household word. It was our lot to know him in evil days. He came to us clothed with absolute, dictatorial powers. We had been conquered, and there remained to us no alternative but unquestioning submission. He was immediately surrounded by parasites and adventurers, and all the species of that low order of human nature which thrives upon the misfortunes of men and Nations. He was petitioned to suppress the courts, annul the laws, take away the right of trial by jury, divest the people of their property for the benefit of corporations, and to imprison and punish by military commission. But General Hancock was as continent in peace as he had been courageous in war. He was literally "first in peace." He announced the grand principle that: "Free institutions, while they are essential to the prosperity and happiness of the people, always furnish the strongest inducements to peace and order." That was the whole philosophy of a wise, just and practical reconstruction expressed in one pithy sentence. It had been better for black men and white men, better for the Republican party, and better for the whole country had the weighty meaning of that sentence been better understood. Its conception placed him just fifteen years ahead of the Republican party's most sagacious leaders. He is, therefore, in the highest and deepest sense a statesman; though he has never moved in the dark and treacherous ways of what is called "practical politics." He has shown his love of liberty even in the land of the conquered, and his reverence for law while clothed with the arbitrary power of a military dictator. We may be sure that he will never attempt to overthrow those free institutions which he was so careful to uphold where they had been temporarily subverted. His name was historical in other generations, and he has worn it worthily. His ancestors were heroes and statesmen in the early days of the Republic, and he has all the traits which made them illustrious among their peers. In this great crisis of its history he is a tower of strength to the Democracy. He will be elected, and no man will venture to dispute his title. His nomination is not a threat to the revolutionary spirit of the Republican party; it is a compliment to the judgment of the country.—N. O. Picayune.

The New York reformers are in a fix. They cannot vote for Garfield, whom they are willing to tolerate, without voting for Arthur, whom—in a partisan way—they detest. They may have to "take to the woods" after all.

Garfield said he borrowed \$300 from Oakes Ames with which to pay debts which he had contracted during a trip to Europe. Then the Committee found the sum was \$329, that it was paid as dividend on Credit Mobilier stock, and that Garfield did not go to Europe until two years after he received the money.

Since the carpet-baggers have been cleaned out of Florida the State taxes have been reduced from \$422,247 to \$249,879 per annum, a considerable floating debt has been paid off, and the State's credit has been raised to par. The State bonds, which were at sixty to seventy in 1876, are now selling at one hundred.—Chicago News.

Happy is it for the Democratic party, fortunate is it for the people of the United States that the delegates at Cincinnati made so wise a decision. Without disparagement of other candidates, each of whom had his peculiar elements of strength it may be asserted that no name would have evoked greater enthusiasm or infused into the public mind stronger confidence of victory than the name of this gallant son of the Keystone State.—Washington Post.

General Arthur, the Victim of Mr. Hayes' Civil-Service Reform.

The Republican nominee for the Vice-Presidency is one of the best administrators in the country. He may be said to incarnate the great idea of Finlayson, that the object of politics is to get the office, for he is the most conspicuous victim in the country of Mr. Hayes' doctrine of Civil-Service reform. He first became conspicuous in New York politics in 1861 under the auspices of Governor Edwin D. Morgan. Mr. Arthur was then about thirty years of age and a member of the law firm of Arthur & Gardner and had been known along with George Bliss, Jr., Elliott F. Shepley and other young lawyers as active young Republicans from the time of the Fremont campaign. Governor Morgan first appointed him January 1, 1861, as Inspector-General on his staff. In the following July he exchanged places with Cayley Van Vechten, another member of the staff, who was then Quartermaster-General. As Quartermaster-General Arthur made his mark in this city during the early period of the civil war when regiments were raised, equipped and sent to the field by the State. When Governor Fenton was elected General Arthur's old place was taken by General Merritt, who succeeded him as Collector also when several years afterwards President Hayes cut off his official head. During the years when General Arthur was out of office, from 1865 to 1871, he was busily employed in local politics and in his profession, paying special attention to bounty and river claims as well as to business connected with Albany and Washington legislation. In November, 1871, Grant's favorite and New York friend, Mr. Thomas Murphy, having been badly smirched by the Tammany Ring revelations of that period, was compelled to resign his post as Collector of the Port of New York. The post was offered to ex-Congressman John A. Griswold of Troy, and on his declining it to the late William O'Brien, who also declined it. They both united in recommending General Grant to name General Arthur as Collector.

Arthur was appointed Collector November 20, 1871. The World of the following morning published the following under the heading "Long Live the King":

"The reporter visited the newly appointed Collector, General Chester A. Arthur, at his residence, No. 12 Lexington avenue, last evening, and in answer to inquiries made the new Collector said in substance as follows: 'I was born in Vermont and attended the College; was graduated when I was eighteen years of age in the class of '48, and am about forty years old; immediately after graduation I came to this city and studied law; am a lawyer, and have resided in this city ever since. I came here as an American, and in declining the late war I held the position of Quartermaster-General, but have never held any political office, or any consequent political position, though I have been actively engaged in political matters I have never sought, but rather avoided holding any political office, and have no expectation of doing so at this time, and in fact knew nothing about it until some friends called upon me and informed me that it was published in the evening papers.'

"In reply to a remark made by the reporter that the appointment would cause him any discomfort though coming unexpectedly, Mr. Arthur said:

"I don't know about that; the duties of the office are rather hard to perform in a satisfactory manner, but of course it is an office which no man needs to be ashamed to assume. As well known that I hold the office of Chairman of the State Central Executive Committee, I don't know why I should assume the duties of the office. As I told you, I did not know of my appointment until after reaching home this evening."

"The new Collector is a very pleasant, agreeable gentleman to meet, and appeared the picture of contentment last evening. The Committee of Seventy forced the President to agree several weeks ago that he would remove Murphy. He said he would do it after election. Murphy is compromised with Tammany to appoint his 'best friend,' Chester A. Arthur, who is as thoroughly a hater of Horace Greeley and Senator Fenton and completely under the control of Conkling as Murphy was. The peculiar aspect presented by this change is the fact that Grant reserves all of the appeals that have been made to him to appoint a man outside of the present Custom-house Ring, who possesses capacity, honesty and commercial experience, to the end that harmony might come to the party in this State. The announcement that the appointment is satisfactory to Senator Fenton and his friends is scarcely possible, as that gentleman's friends denounce it in unqualified terms. The appointment of Arthur was agreed upon at a dinner-party given President Grant when he was last here, at the residence of Mr. John Hoop. Fenton and General Arthur were present. An Anti-Grant man described the change from Murphy to Arthur as equivalent to the change from Tweed for Connelly or vice versa. It was Murphy and Arthur and Murphy in the division of the offices and sinecures with Tammany for service rendered at the former place. The business twins were never really allied in transactions of every kind than Murphy and Arthur have been. Tom Murphy and the Conkling ring still control the Custom-House. They were at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last night, some of them in consultation with the Senator, and the leaders were congratulating over their triumph. The distinguished George Bliss, Jr., remarked to a friend that it was all right; that the Custom-house had only passed out of one hand into the other of the same control. There are many of the rank and file in the Custom-House who are anxious to hear of the change last night. Of course they are alarmed about their own safety. They say the heavy tax on imports and commercial literature, to be appropriated to political purposes, will probably not save them. It is likely that before the Senate ratifies the States acts upon the nomination of Mr. Arthur it will hear from the importers and merchants of New York on the subject."

"The Republicans at Chicago now propose to send Mr. Arthur in the presidential chair of the State. Perhaps the importers and merchants of New York will have something to say, however, on the subject."

General Arthur in private life is much liked and esteemed. He is a man of fine personal appearance and excellent address, fond, as we have already intimated, of flowers and commercial literature. He is a widower, having lost his wife, a lady of rare qualities of mind and character, little more than a year ago.—N. Y. World.

POLITICAL POINTS.

Hancock's nomination has taken Pennsylvania out of the column of doubtful States and made it certainly Democratic.—St. Louis Republican.

The Chicago Convention managed to provide several first-class funerals—Grant, Sherman and Blaine, Conkling, Cameron and Logan—all dead.

It is now in order for George William Curtis to fall upon Arthur's neck, and rejoice with full heart over the triumph of Civil-service reform principles won by the nomination of Arthur for the Vice-Presidency.

Power may destroy the forms, but not the principles of justice; they will live in spite even of the sword," wrote General Hancock to Governor Pease, the carpet-bag Governor of Texas, in 1867. That was the epitome of Democracy then, and it is the epitome of Democracy to-day.

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