An Island Fortress.

As the visitor to this port, by steamer or by sailing vessel, enters the famous Golden Gate and realizes the extent and beauty of San Francisco, the most prominent object which meets his gaze is the island of Alcatraz, that seems to stand as a lonely sentinel, thoroughly armed with batteries and redoubts, prepared to dispute his passage unless properly certified. This natural fortification impresses the latest comer with as much force in this respect as it did the first of the Spanish navigators, who saw in it an advantageous point from which to float the flag of his sovereign and compel alien nations to render proper homage. It is a striking fact that the very points now occupied by the various fortifications of "Uncle Samuel" if not actually used by the Spanish authorities before the conquest, yet they were reserved from the grants so freely granted in those primitive days, and in one case—the Presidio—was actually used as a military post as early as 1835. Before this time a communication had been addressed to the military Governor of Sonora, whose jurisdiction extended over this State, by General Mariano G. Vallejo, his deputy, who gave a sketch of the harbor and of the facilities for defense against invasion by armed vessels. This report made special mention of "Alcatrazes," or Pelican Island, which was recommended to the care of the home government for the purpose of a military reservation. Besides the Presidio, the bluffs opposite the entrance to the harbor were noted, and last of all the whole of Angel Island was marked out by General Vallejo as well adapted for military garrisons. The Island of Alcatraz, thus early selected by a competent soldier, was always regarded with jealous care by the mother country, and among all the grants of land recorded in favor of its loyal subjects its name never appears. The only attempt made to include it was in the second fraudulent paper presented by the famous or infamous Jose Y. Limantour, dated February 27, 1843, which claimed two square leagues west of Yerba Buena, and included in this grant were Alcatraz and Goat Islands. The last named island also came within the boundary of a grant to Juan Castro, dated 1838, but it was rejected on good grounds. In 1838 A. M. Osio laid claim to the whole of Angel Island, but as he never occupied it the United States Land Commission rejected it. The grounds at present included in the Presidio Reservation were claimed by Benito Diaz and Prudenzio Santillan, under grants applied for in 1848, but these met the same fate with the others at the Land Commission. With the capture of California by the United States its Army and Navy Departments followed in the footseps of the Mexican Government, and these natural points for fortification were carefully perfected, and as soon as possible steps taken to fit them for emergencies. As early as 1852 Alcatraz was occupied by a company of soldiers, and under the charge of experienced officers of the Engineer Department work was commenced to make this rampart impregnable. From that date work has not ceased, until now the whole appearance of the work is so changed that those who were fortunate enough to see it in its original shape cannot recognize it. But the island is more than a fortress. It is a prison, where many a criminal has, on entering its lonely walls, literally left hope behind. To this place were brought, during the civil war, many uncompromising adherents of the lost cause and pirates of the Chapman schooner, captured on the eve of sailing on their free lance voyage. Here, also, came the remnant of the Modocs to end their days, and today there are many captives wearing out their lives in a servitude not much removed from the guano workers on the lonely islands of the South Pacific. —*San Francisco Alta.*

Six Pairs of Shoes a Minute.

A cobbler takes half a day to sole and heel a pair of shoes. In Crow Hill Penitentiary a few hundreds of men and women start with the raw material and turn out three thousand and eight hundred pairs of shoes in ten hours, or more than six pairs of shoes a minute. The men and women have little to do with it. Machines do the work, and need only to be fed, started and stopped; all the fine and ingenious work of building a beautiful shoe they do, one part at a time and one machine to each part. For instance, the first machine cuts the soles out of the leather. It is nothing but a punch fitted with a knife the shape of a shoe sole. Different-sized knives cut out anything from a baby's to a plantation darky's size. Cutting out the soles leaves the sheets of leather in tatters. The biggest tatters are used for heels; the smallest make fuel. Leather scraps make as good a furnace fire as coal does. The next machine splits a thin slice of the upper surface of the sole a little way from the edge all around, so that it looks as if a thin sheet had been pasted on to the sole, leaving the edges unpasted. Under this loose edge a machine presses a little gutter or channel, in which the nailing or sewing is done, and afterwards hidden by pasting the loose edge over it when the upper is attached.

At the same moment other convicts are cutting uppers out of sheets of dressed calfskin. They lay patterns on the skins and thus cut the needed sizes. This is done by hand, but the linings are sewed to the uppers, and the buttonholes are put through both leather and linings by machinery. The buttonholes are stitched by automatic machines, consisting of a sewing machine having under the needle a little plate which turns exactly in accordance with the outlines of the buttonhole, and stops when the buttonhole is finished. One man feeds several machines, starts them and does not touch them while they are at work. After this the soles and uppers come into the hands of one set of convicts, the lasters and tackers on, who put the two together with a very few small tacks. These people all work like lightning, but they are slow beside the machinery.

The soles and uppers are firmly joined in several ways. One machine puts in brass screws and bites them off exactly at the right distance between the upper and under surface of the leather; another drives in an iron screw with the same nicety; another sews the parts together with wax thread, the thread passing through a heated metal horn, which keeps it soft and warm; yet another imitates hand sewing with yellow thread, leaving an extended sole, which is afterward beveled to look pretty. The merit of this machine is that the shoes it sews are pliable and easy to the foot, and bring a good price. This does its work in eleven seconds.

The heels are made separately, and when finished have all the nails projecting half an inch below the bottom of the lower sheet of leather. A convict puts one of these heels into a metal cup in a press of great power, and over that he rests a shoe in the right position. Then comes down a great bar and squeezes the heel and shoe together, driving every other nail all the way in, and leaving every other nail sticking a little way out. He takes the shoe out, puts a pretty heel tap in, puts the shoe back, submits it to the pressure, and then withdraws it and finds the tap firmly nailed, with the nails not quite through the tap, which presents a smooth, unbroken surface. The heel-shaving machines present to the heel a set of rapidly revolving knives, shaped to make a straight heel or a guttered one, or even a lady's French heel. Another machine cuts the front of the heel square, and another trims and smooths the edge of the sole. The edge of the sole and the sides of the heel are blackened, and the edge is put under a hot iron about the size of a fat chestnut. The iron moves to and fro with incredible rapidity, in imitation of the motion of the cobblers, who used to do the work by hand. A large iron, also heated by a gas jet, does the same thing for the heel, and does it under such pressure that cracks and unevennesses in the heel are smoothed over, filled up and concealed.

Some shoe uppers have eyelet holes instead of button holes. There is a machine in the prison for doing this work. It has two steel rods close to one another, and while one punches the holes the other inserts the eyelets, which run down a little gutter, right side up, exactly into place to fix the punctures in the leather, and to have the edges squeezed over by the other rod and the piece that fits upon it. Twenty years ago shoemaking machinery performed only one-half this work, and did that roughly. Now the shoes made in Crow Hill prison are such as most persons wear, and are in all respects shapely, presentable and well finished. Some of them retail at four or five dollars a pair.

In this prison, side by side with the scum of humanity, reputable men and girls are employed. There are probably two hundred girls in the female prison, who live in Brooklyn, come every morning, and are free to go home whenever they present a certain ticket at the prison door. The Warden, who is, in all probability, not consulted, since these persons work for the contractors, was asked what he thought was the effect of such surroundings upon the youths of good morals. He replied that there used to be a general feeling that the arrangement was improper and dangerous, but it has not proved so. Outside free labor has been employed in Crow Hill eleven or twelve years, and of all the hundreds who have thus come daily to the prison, not one has ever been sent there as a prisoner. The outsiders do not have anything to do with the prisoners. They sit apart, and never, under any circumstances, speak a word to the convicts.—*American Cultivator.*

Musty Floors in Houses.

Where a house is built over the ground and with no cellar under it, the confined, moist air encourages mold and decay of the timber. The spores of mildew are undoubtedly unwholesome and provoke diseases which come under the head of malarial, and which often take the form of fevers of the worst type. Every house should have a cellar under the whole of it, if only for the purpose of avoiding this damp, confined air; or, if not, the building should be set on posts or piers two feet and be wholly open under it. The summer is the worst season for mildew, as it will not grow in the winter and frost kills it. Houses in cities are always built over cellars: for the greater part there is far more attention given to healthful provision of this kind in towns and cities than in country places. Dampness in the soil under and around a house is certain to produce the most serious diseases, as typhoid fevers, consumption, rheumatism and the so-called malarial complaints, and will ruin the health of naturally robust persons. The choice of the location for a house is of the utmost importance; it should be dry before all other requirements, and a cellar is indispensable.—*N. Y. Times.*

Glibly Expressed Sorrow.

Talking with a friend the other day about the tricks of youth and the dimly remembered gentle parental admonitions administered with a slipper, while the subject was in an knee-sy recumbent position, he said that he recollected one day when his mother was sick and his prim old aunt came to preside over him, the older brother and the table.

Having teased his aunt past all endurance, she tapped his sconse, when he called her an old fool. At the supper table his father was informed of his impudence and Will was told to go to the head of the table and tell his aunt he was sorry. He went and fulfilled the command, with hanging head, by saying:

"I'm sorry you're an old fool, Auntie." He got no supper, but meant well.—*Gorham Mountaineer.*

—Secretary Folger still adheres to his policy of giving the women in his department an even chance with the men. Out of one hundred and thirty promotions in the Treasury Department since January 1, forty have been women. This is over thirty per cent., being the same proportion which has characterized the previous promotions made since the Secretary took charge of the department. Many of the most efficient clerks are women, who are regular in their attendance, prompt in the discharge of all duties, and who very rarely make any mistakes.—*Washington Star.*

—The Welland Canal is to be dredged to a uniform depth of fourteen feet. The work will cost one million dollars

Why They Do Not Discuss Them.

The Blaine newspapers do not discuss the Mulligan letters. They do not print such parts of Blaine's speeches as refer, ever so gingerly, to the Mulligan letters. The reason assigned for this policy is, that "Mr. Blaine desires the letters not to be discussed by his friends or advocates on the stump or in the press." The motive assigned to this desire is "self-respect." The Blaine men maintain that they will not "discuss the character of Mr. Blaine, and do not think he needs any defense." It is conceivable that the devotion of personal friendship may comfort itself with this reflection. It is not rational, however, to suppose that such a finely-worded excuse will deceive or satisfy any one but personal friends. A man whose public honesty is questioned, has to defend himself in politics—or the general conclusion is that his honesty will not bear defense. When a large and the most respectable portion of a man's party bolts his nomination, on the express ground that he is dishonest, the *prima facie* presumption of his innocence is really changed in the public mind to a *prima facie* presumption of his guilt. In the case of Mr. Blaine, "silence is confession."

Some of his less irrational friends see this and seek to say that "The charges have all been examined and the man has been cleared. There is no use of reopening the matter." Is this true? The charges were "examined" by the Committee of the House in 1876—up to the period at which Mr. Blaine was required to produce the Mulligan letters and stand a cross-examination on them. Two things prevented that step from being taken. Mr. Blaine had an opportune sunstroke and he resigned his seat in the House, with the result, and, indisputably with the intention, of putting himself beyond its jurisdiction. Then the "examination" had to cease. The Republican National Conventions of 1876, and 1880 and 1884 "examined" these charges also. The first two conventions flung Mr. Blaine out because of the letters. The nomination of Mr. Blaine in 1884 has caused the men of conscience to fling themselves out of the organization because of those letters. These facts explain why Mr. Blaine has passed the word that no discussion of the Mulligan letters shall take place among his friends; but they put an entirely different face on the reasons from that which he would have them wear.

A consideration of the letters makes every Republican, with a logical mind and an upright intent, an anti-Blaine man. There are plenty of men with upright intent who are for Blaine, but they lack the logical mind. The union of the power to reason correctly, with the possession of a patriotic purpose, makes a Republican, who examines the Mulligan letters, a condemner of Blaine. Some of them will vote against him. Others will refrain from voting. Others will reluctantly vote for him, but will not put forth any efforts to elect him. That is why Mr. Blaine prescribes silence on the Mulligan letters. Several times a policy of silence has got Republican politicians out of a bad scrape. It will not aid Mr. Blaine, this time. The charge of "throwing mud" will not serve. The matter is Mr. Blaine's writing. Every conspicuous present advocate of his has deliberately declared in the past that the letters show the conspicuous guilt of Mr. Blaine. The cry of "Democratic calumny" will not avail. As many Republicans as Democrats demand the defeat of Mr. Blaine on account of these letters.

The filmy plea of "dignity" and "self-respect" will not do for Mr. Blaine set the example of discussing these letters (1) by stealing them and violating his promise to return them: (2) by garbling them, reading them out of their order, and omitting to read four of them altogether, after falsely saying that he had read them all, and (3) by running away from the inquiry at exactly the stage where he would have been required to stand a cross-examination on the letters, by resigning from the House, when resignation was confession and dishonor.

Every fact and reason in the case accounts for Mr. Blaine's prescription of silence to his friends about the Mulligan letters—but his explanation of why he has directed that the matter be ignored is found to be as flimsy as any pretense of statesmanship on his part, based on the fact of thirty years of office-jobbing.—*Albany Argus.*

Maine.

The returns up to the hour of writing from Maine indicate a Republican majority of some 15,000 to 16,000. The returns have been sent, compared with those of September, 1880—a silly mode of comparison which only requires a little more analysis to get at the probable result. The Blaine managers will claim a great victory. They ought to be allowed all the encouragement they can gather from the effect of their great and practically unopposed efforts in the State from which they have taken their candidate. They need it for their personal consolation, but that is all the good it will do them. As compared with the September vote of 1876, the last one held under normal conditions, they ought to have had more than 20,000 majority. The average majority from 1860 to 1876, in September of Presidential years, was 17,000. So it will be seen that with all their straining, with the advantage of Mr. Blaine's appeals to State pride, with the field substantially abandoned to them, the Republicans have managed to hold their own, but have not succeeded in getting their fair share of the increased vote. If that satisfies the managers we have no disposition to complain.

It is plain that the election will have but little influence on other States. It gives no evidence of any such popularity on Mr. Blaine's part in the State of his residence as should have been expected; none such as Mr. Edmunds would have shown in Vermont, or Mr. Lincoln in Illinois, or Mr. Gresham in Indiana. It discloses the fact that here he should have been overwhelmingly strong he is no stronger relatively than even Mr. Hayes eight years ago. The real struggle is yet to be made. It will not be materially affected by the "political promenade" which the managers had arranged in Maine. It will be determined by forces far more potent than those enlisted there, and these forces are working steadily and strongly against Blaine.—*N. Y. Times.*

—The water lilies of Cape Cod, Mass., are of pink color instead of white. They are a very profitable plant. An owner of a half-acre pond has sold $500 worth of them this season.—*Boston Globe.*

MR. CHEATEM—Mr. Jinks, why don't you sell this Hippopotamus Axle Grease instead of the Frazer?

MR. JINKS—Because our customers ask for the Frazer.

MR. CHEATEM—I'd have you know that one box of the Frazer costs us nearly as much as two boxes of the Hippopotamus—while we sell them at the same price.

MR. JINKS—But one box of the Frazer will last as long as three boxes of the other.

MR. CHEATEM—That's just it—by selling this Grease you not only make twice as much profit, but they have to buy three boxes of it when they would only have to buy one of the Frazer Grease.

LIFE is short—only four letters in it. Three-quarters of this a "lie" and a half of it is an "if." Put this on "file" if you would as "lief."—*Chicago Tribune.*

NO EFFORT has ever been made to advertise Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound outside our own America; yet frequent calls from other parts of the world show that good news will spread. Packages of this medicine have even been sent from Lynn, Mass., to China.

THE girl with bangs generally makes a noise in the world—at least it annoys a good many to look upon her.—*Yonkers Gazette.*

FROZEN mutton is sold in England, and it is no uncommon thing there for a butcher to give a customer the cold shoulder.—*Somerville Journal.*

"Rough on Corns." 15c. Ask for it. Complete cure, hard or soft corns, warts, bunions.

A SCREAMING farce—The performance of an amateur opera singer.—*Boston Post.*

"Mother Swan's Worm Syrup," for feverishness, worms, constipation, tasteless. 25c

THE boat builder is apt to have his designs thwarted.—*Yonkers Gazette.*

Colden's Liquid Beef Tonic
Cures chills, fever, ague and weakness. Colden's, no other, of Druggists.

THE question of the hour—What time of day is it?—*Boston Courier.*

"Buchu-paiba." Quick, complete cure, all annoying Kidney and Urinary Diseases, $1.

FALSE hair does not antedate false pride.—*Pretzel's Weekly.*

EVERYONE wanting employment should read ad. of Mennonite Pub. Co. in this paper.

IT is the successful trapeze performer who generally reaches the climb-acts.—*Texas Siftings.*

"Rough on Coughs." 15c., at Druggists. Complete cure Coughs, Hoarseness, Sore Throat.

A JUSTICE'S pantaloons can hardly be called breaches of the peace.—*Boston Bulletin.*

BEWARE of the incipient stages of Consumption. Take Piso's Cure in time.

SHOULD a mustard plaster be classed among drawing materials?—*Oil City Derrick.*

Skinny Men. "Wells' Health Renewer" restores health and vigor, cures Dyspepsia, $1.

POSSESSED only in imagination, a guinea becomes a far-thing.—*Yonkers Gazette.*

Be Careful.

A short time ago a young woman residing not far from Whitby was telling in a neighbor's house how her husband had been troubled for several days with a severe pain in his head, that she had done everything she could think of to relieve it, that even the doctor's medicine didn't seem to do any good, and that she was about tired out. Thereupon a new neighbor, who had just been introduced to her, kindly asked if she had tried soaking his feet in mustard and hot water. Greatly to the astonishment of the woman who had made the suggestion, the wife turned upon her like a tigress. "Insult my affliction, will you, you shameful hussy!" gasped the wife of the sick man, working her fingers convulsively, her blood rising to boiling heat and her voice getting higher and higher. The hostess at this point interposed in the defense of the new neighbor, and quiet was finally restored. After the wife had retired, and explanations were entered into, it appeared that some years before the sick husband had been deprived of both his legs by a piece of machinery, and there had been a story that his present wife married him for his money. People should be more careful in giving medical advice to strangers.—*English Exchange.*

—"Mamma," complained a little girl, running into the house, "me and Willie wanted nurse to sit down and let us pour sand in her back, and she wouldn't." "Certainly not. She did quite right." "Well, that's what you told her she was to do when she first came." "I told her she was to let you and Willie pour sand down her back?" "Not exactly that, mamma, but you told her she was to mind the children." —*N. Y. Sun.*

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Remarkable Recovery

Of a Lady of Millville, N. J., Who was Pronounced Beyond Hope of Recovery—How it was Accomplished.

Mrs. S. C. Dougherty says: "I had been a sufferer from Dyspepsia from the time I was sixteen years old. I had consulted various physicians and been under their treatment during most of the time, but finding no relief, had given up in despair of ever having my health restored. A friend recommended Dr. DAVID KENNEDY'S FAVORITE REMEDY, which I tried, and have been cured. It's the best medicine I ever knew of, and worthy of the greatest confidence."

The above is but one of the hundred facts which prove that Dr. DAVID KENNEDY'S FAVORITE REMEDY is without an equal as a cure for diseases peculiar to females. But, if the reader desires more evidence, read the following proof from Mrs. Carrie Key, the wife of Sergeant Key, Co. C, 3d N. J. Reg., who says under date of March 1, 1884:

"Two years ago my husband came home in the spring from Virginia, where he had been in charge of a schooner. He was taken down with *Malarial* fever. We were both sick with it. After consulting our family physician and finding no permanent relief we tried your FAVORITE REMEDY, and I can say that it completely cured us of malaria, and is the best medicine of its kind I ever heard of.

Dr. KENNEDY'S FAVORITE REMEDY is a positive cure for all diseases of the Blood, and habitual Constipation. As proof of it E. J. Sears, of Vineland, says, under date of March 30: "I have used Dr. KENNEDY'S FAVORITE REMEDY and I am willing to acknowledge it the best medicine in the world for the bowels I ever used, and FAVORITE REMEDY is a most excellent preparation for the Blood." These are facts which can but convince the most skeptical that Dr. DAVID KENNEDY'S FAVORITE REMEDY is an honest preparation which no family should be without. It is the result of the scientific knowledge of medicine attained only by the years of experience of an educated physician. It is a positive *cure for Malaria, Kidney and Liver Diseases*, and all diseases peculiar to females. Price $1 per bottle.

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A CURE ALL, but as a tonic and health renewer, and for Blood and Skin Diseases, and troubles dependent on impure or impoverished blood, Swift's Specific is without a rival.

"My baby six months old broke out with some kind of skin humor, and after being treated five months by my family physician, was given up to die. The druggist recommended Swift's Specific, and the result was as gratifying as it was miraculous. My child soon got well, all traces of the disease is gone, and he is as fat as a pig." J. J. KIRKLAND, Minden, Rusk County, Texas.

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If you are suffering from poor health or languishing on a bed of sickness, take cheer if you are simply ailing, or if you feel weak and dispirited, without clearly knowing why, Hop Bitters will surely cure you.

If you are a minister, and have overtaxed yourself with your pastoral duties, or a mother, worn out with care and work, or a man of business or labor, weakened by the strain of your every-day duties, or a man of letters toiling over your midnight work, Hop Bitters will most surely strengthen you.

If you are suffering from over-eating or drinking, any indiscretion or dissipation, or are young and growing too fast, as is often the case,

"Or if you are in the workshop, on the farm, at the desk, anywhere, and feel that your system needs cleansing, tonic, or stimulating, without intoxicating, if you are old, blood thin and impure, pulse feeble, nerves unsteady, faculties waning, Hop Bitters is what you need to give you new life, health and vigor."

If you are costive, or dyspeptic, or suffering from any other of the numerous diseases of the stomach or bowels, it is your own fault if you remain ill. If you are wasting away with any form of Kidney disease, stop tempting death this moment, and turn for a cure to Hop Bitters.

If you are sick with that terrible sickness, Nervousness, you will find a "Balm in Gilead" in Hop Bitters.

—If you are a frequenter, or a resident of, a malarial district, barricade your system against the scourge of all countries—Malaria, Epidemic Bilious and Intermittent Fevers by the use of Hop Bitters.

If you have rough, pimply, or sallow skin, bad breath, Hop Bitters will give you fair skin, rich blood, the sweetest breath and health. $500 will be paid for a case they will not cure or help.

A Lady's Wish.

"Oh, how I do wish my skin was as clear and soft as yours," said a lady to her friend. "You can easily make it so," answered the friend. "How?" inquired the first lady. "By using Hop Bitters that makes pure, rich blood and blooming health. It did it for me, as you observe."

☞ None genuine without a bunch of green Hops on the white label. Shun all the vile, poisonous stuff with "Hop" or "Hops" in their name.

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Are your Kidneys disordered? "Kidney-Wort brought me from my grave, said were, after I had been given up by 15 best doctors in Detroit." M. W. Deveraux, Lieutenant, Joliet, Mich.

Are your nerves weak? "Kidney-Wort cured me from nervous weakness &c., after I was not expected to live."—Mrs. M. B. Goodwin, Ed. Christian Monitor Cleveland, O.

Have you Bright's Disease? "Kidney-Wort cured me when my water was just like chalk and then like blood." Frank Wilson, Peabody, Mass.

Suffering from Diabetes? "Kidney-Wort is the most successful remedy I have ever used. Gives almost immediate relief." Dr. Phillip C. Dalton, Newton, Vt.

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Is your Back lame and aching? "Kidney-Wort, it pointly cured me when I was lame I had to rest out of bed." C. M. Tallmadge, Milwaukee, Wis.

Have you Kidney Disease? "Kidney-Wort made me sound in liver and kidneys after years of unsuccessful doctoring. Its worth $10 a box."—Sam'l Hodges, Williamstown, West Va.

Are you Constipated? "Kidney-Wort causes easy evacuations and cured me after 10 years use of other medicines." Nelson Fairchild, St. Albans, Vt.

Have you Malaria? "Kidney-Wort has done better than any other remedy I have ever used in my practice." Dr. D. K. Clark, South Hero, Vt.

Are you Bilious? "Kidney-Wort has done me more good than any other remedy I have ever taken." Mrs. J. T. Galloway, Elk Flat, Oregon.

Are you tormented with Piles? "Kidney-Wort permanently cured me of bleeding piles. Dr. W. O. Kline recommended it to me." Geo. H. Hong, Cashier M. Bank, Myerstown, Pa.

Are you Rheumatism racked? "Kidney-Wort cured me, after I was given up to die by physicians and I had suffered thirty years." Elbridge Ridlon, West Bath, Maine.

Ladies, are you suffering? "Kidney-Wort cured me of peculiar troubles of several years standing. Many friends use and praise it." Mrs. H. Lamoreaux, Isle La Motte, Vt.

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