educational, religious or charitable institutions, or to trustees for educational, religious or charitable purposes, shall be exempt from this tax, unless such donation, or legacy, shall be more than half of the disposable portion of the testator's or donor's estate, in which case the tax shall be imposed upon the entire legacy or donation and the legatees or donees shall be considered to be within the third class.

8. Such other special taxes as the General Assembly by a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house may from time to time prescribe.

Article IV.

1. The General Assembly shall have power to levy license taxes only on persons, partnerships, associations and corporations engaged in business or occupations that fall strictly under the domain of the police power, and for that purpose to classify all such businesses and occupations, and to graduate the tax within each class.

2. Local subdivisions of the State government shall have the power to levy licenses on businesses and occupations falling strictly within the domain of the police power as provided in the foregoing section for the State, save that such local licenses as may be levied on traffic in malt, vinous and alcoholic liquors shall not be less than those levied by the State nor less than those now or hereafter to be prescribed by the General Assembly as minimum local licenses.

3. Such local subdivisions as each may determine for itself shall also have the right to levy license taxes, classified and graduated with due respect to equality and uniformity within each class, on all businesses and occupations not covered by Section 2 of this Article; save and except licenses on corporations, persons, firms and associations whose property or business is among the sources of revenue reserved to the State, and save and except licenses on individuals engaged in trades, occupations and callings involving the personal labor or skill of the person to be taxed, and not falling within the domain of the police power; and save and except corporations, associations, partnerships or individuals engaged in manufacturing or industrial pursuits whose capital stock, or capital in business, is less than five thousand dollars, and not falling within the domain of the police power; and save and except persons, firms and corporations engaged in agricultural or horticultural pursuits. In no event shall any such local license exceed one-tenth of one per cent of the gross receipts of the licensee, provided that no license shall be less than $5.00, nor shall the licenses provided for in this section be levied unless the general property tax of each taxing locality, when exercised to sixty per cent of its limit, shall not be sufficient to pay the expenses of its government. Whenever a municipal license equals the license levied by the parish, only the municipal license shall be due and collectible.

Article V.

1. All assessments of property for State purposes shall be made by a State Tax Commission, composed of three members to be elected, not later than July 1st, 1913, by a Board composed of the Governor, the State Auditor and the State Treasurer, from among the qualified electors of the respective Railroad Commission Districts, as constituted at this date, and they shall not be subject to removal except for the causes and in the manner provided for the removal of district judges.

2. The terms of the first commissioners shall be for two, four and six years. The period each is to serve shall be determined by lot. At the expiration of such terms, election shall be for the period of six years; and commissioners shall be elected and vacancies filled for any unexpired term by the qualified electors of the respective Railroad Commission Districts at the regular congressional elections held in this State the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November every two years; and at the said congressional election held just prior to the expiration of their respective terms.

3. The Commission shall maintain an office and have its domicile at Baton Rouge, and the members shall reside in Baton Rouge and devote their time exclusively to the discharge of their duties.

4. They shall each receive a salary of Five Thousand Dollars per annum, beginning January 1, 1914, and their traveling expenses, not exceeding a maximum amount to be fixed from time to time by the General Assembly, an itemized account of which shall be rendered in an annual report.

5. The chairman of the first Commission shall be named by the appointing Board and serve until the expiration of his term of office, and thereafter the Commission shall select its own chairman.

6. The Commission and the individual members thereof shall perform such duties in respect to assessment and taxation as are herein prescribed, and such other and further duties as the General Assembly may from time to time prescribe.

7. The General Assembly shall provide said Commission with an adequate clerical force.

8. The Commission shall have power to adopt and enforce such reasonable rules, regulations and modes of procedure, not inconsistent with law, as it may deem proper for the discharge of its duties, and to hear and determine complaints that may be made against assessments, and other of its acts required or authorized by law.

9. The Commission shall have power to summon and compel the attendance of witnesses, to swear witnesses, and to compel the production of books and papers, to take testimony under commission, and to punish for contempt, as fully as is provided by law for the district courts. The General Assembly may provide other penalties for violating the orders of the Commission.

10. If any person, firm, association or corporation shall be dissatisfied with the assessment made or action taken by the Commission, such party may file a petition setting forth the cause of objection to such assessment or action of the Commission or to either or both, in a court of competent jurisdiction, at the domicile of the Commission, against said Commission as defendant. Either party may appeal to the Supreme Court of the State without regard to the amount involved; such appeals to be returnable within ten days after the date that the decision of the lower court becomes final. All such cases, both in the trial and appellate court, shall be tried summarily, and by preference over all other cases. Such cases may be tried in the court of the first instance either in chambers or at term time.

11. No bond shall be required of said Commission in any case in any court, nor shall advance costs, or security for costs, be required of it.

12. It shall be the duty of the Attorney General, and the various district attorneys, on proper request or direction by the Commission of the Governor, to aid the said Commission in all legal matters, and to prosecute and defend all cases in accordance with such requests and directions. A failure on the part of such law officers, when so requested or directed to perform the duties here imposed upon them, shall constitute misfeasance in office.

Article VI.

1. After January 1st, 1914, all assessments for all State purposes, except as hereinafter provided, shall be completed on or before April 1st in each year, and the taxes shall become due and payable on the first Monday in June of each year, and shall become delinquent on the first Monday in September in each year. Each parish and municipality shall have the right to fix the date for the completion of its local assessments, and the payment of its local taxes and licenses, general and special, until otherwise prescribed by the General Assembly. Until otherwise provided, existing laws on these subjects shall be operative. Levee district taxes and forced contributions, exclusive of produce taxes, shall be assessed and become delinquent coincidentally with parish taxes.

2. Public service corporations shall be assessed on their physical property and on their franchises separately, but the General Assembly shall have power to direct the Tax Commission to assess the property of such corporations at a valuation including both physical property and franchises, to be determined by gross receipts, or by dividends on stocks and interest paid on bonded debt, or by any other available method.

3. Incorporated banks shall be assessed by assessing the stockholders in the book value of the stock, i. e., capital stock, surplus and undivided profits less the assessed value of real estate locally assessed and taxed, and less such further deductions of not less than five per cent on their loans and discounts to cover bad debts and unearned interest as the General Assembly may prescribe, which deduction shall be made only from their surplus and undivided profits; all taxes to be paid by the banks and charged to the stockholders.

4. Individual bankers, banking firms and unincorporated banking associations, domiciled in this State, shall be assessed on the amount of capital, surplus and undivided profits actually employed in their business, less the assessed value of real estate locally assessed and taxed, actually and exclusively used and employed in their business, and less such further deductions not less than five per cent on their loans and discounts to cover bad debts and unearned interest as the General Assembly may prescribe, which deduction shall be made only from their surplus and undivided profits.

5. Foreign banks and individual bankers, banking firms and unincorporated banking associations, domiciled out of the State but doing business in this State, shall be assessed on such proportion of their capital, surplus and undivided profits as is actually employed in this State, less the assessed value of real estate locally assessed and taxed, actually and exclusively used and employed in their business in this State, and less such further deductions, not less than five per cent on their loans and discounts, to cover bad debts and unearned interest as the General Assembly may prescribe, which deductions shall be made only from their surplus and undivided profits.

6. Insurance, bonding and surety companies, and persons, firms and associations engaged in the insurance, bonding and surety business, excluding however, fraternal insurance companies and associations, shall be taxed on a percentage of their gross premiums received upon their business done in this State, less return premiums and reinsurance in companies or associations authorized to do business in this State. The percentage aforesaid shall not exceed three per cent for all branches of insurance, bonding and surety business, except life and industrial insurance and shall not exceed two per cent for life and industrial insurance. The special taxes to support the office of fire marshal and fire prevention bureaus shall not be deducted from the premiums hereby authorized to be taxed. When by the laws of any other State or country any taxes, fines, penalties, licenses, fees, deposits of money or of securities, or other obligations or prohibitions are imposed on insurance, bonding or surety companies of this State doing business in such other State or country, or upon their agents therein in excess of such taxes, penalties, fees, licenses, deposits of money, or of securities, or other obligations or prohibitions imposed upon such insurance, bonding or surety companies of such other State or country, so long as such laws continue in force the same obligations and prohibitions of whatsoever kind may be imposed by the General Assembly of this State upon insurance, bonding or surety companies of such other State or country doing business in this State.

7. Irrigation canals shall be taxed on a percentage not to exceed two per cent of their gross receipts, only such real estate and the buildings and structures thereon, rights of way, machinery, tools and implements as are necessary to the operation of any canal shall be included in and covered by this tax on gross receipts. All other real estate and personal property of the owner of any canal shall be locally assessed and taxed.

8. All sugar refineries, rice mills, cotton seed oil mills, cotton seed oil refineries and refineries of petroleum and its products shall be assessed on the fair market valuation.

9. Until otherwise provided by the General Assembly by a vote of two-thirds of the members elected to each house, all operating mines of sulphur, salt or other minerals, all oil or gas wells, all stone quarries, sand, gravel and shell pits shall be taxed upon a percentage of the gross value of the product at the mouth of the mine, well, quarry or pit. This percentage shall not exceed five per cent for sulphur; three per cent for salt; two and one-half per cent for oil and gas, and two per cent for rock and other minerals, inclusive of gravel, sand and shells. This tax shall not apply to the product of any mines, quarries or pits or oil or gas wells, where the owner, other than public service corporations, uses the same for his personal purposes and does not sell the same or its products or manufacture the same into another product for sale. Where gravel, sand or shells are taken from the beds of public waters or from shores not subject to private ownership, the General Assembly may levy special taxes per cubic yard of material taken out and may levy a different special tax for each of said objects of taxation. The Government of the United States for any purposes, and contractors engaged in the construction of any public work for the State or for the United States solely for the purpose of such public work are authorized to take free from taxation gravel, shell or sand from the beds of public waters and the public shores of the State. Every citizen of the State shall have a similar right to take such materials for his own personal use free from taxation, unless they are taken for sale. All real and personal property of the owners of such mines, wells, quarries and pits, except machinery, tools and implements absolutely essential to the operation of any mine, oil or gas well, stone quarry, sand, gravel or shell pit, and except the products themselves while in the hands of the producer, shall be locally assessed and taxed.

10. All real and personal property reserved for local taxation shall be assessed at such percentage not to exceed 100 per cent of its fair market value as each local governing authority may establish, and a lower percentage may be established for personal than for real property or for the values of improvements than for land values.

11. In all assessments of real property whether for local or for State purposes, the value of the land shall be assessed separately from the value of the improvements; but railroad, pipe line and canal rights of way, whether held in fee or under easement, may be assessed separately from, or together with, the improvements thereon as the Tax Commission may deem most practicable.

12. Assessments shall be arranged geographically as far as possible either upon the roll or upon separate records and the General Assembly shall pass laws providing for the printing and publication in pamphlet form of the records, showing such geographically arranged assessments and for the sale of such pamphlets at a small price.

13. Every taxpayer shall have the right of testing the correctness of his assessment in the courts within such time as the General Assembly may prescribe; and no property shall be assessed for a sum in excess of the percentage of its fair market value, as prescribed by the governing authority.

14. State licenses and special State taxes shall be due and payable at such time as the General Assembly may prescribe.

Article VII.

1. Every municipality shall have the right to provide, at its discretion, by ordinance of its governing authority, the officer or officers, who shall collect its taxes, and to fix the compensation to be paid such officer, or officers, and the mode of their election or appointment; and every Parish shall elect by a vote of its qualified electors the officer, or officers, to assess its property for taxation, the compensation of such officer or officers to be fixed by the Police Jury not less than ten months before the election, and not subject to change during the elected officer's incumbency. This power shall not be exercised in the Parishes, nor in the Parish of Orleans as to assessors, until the terms of office of the present incumbents expire. After January 1, 1914, and until the expiration of the terms of said officers, all local assessments shall be made by the assessors of each Parish and the assessors of New Orleans at the present rate of compensation. All local taxes and licenses except those levied by municipalities, shall be collected by the Sheriff of each Parish except the Parish of Orleans, at the present rate of compensation unless such compensation shall be changed by the General Assembly. After January 1, 1914, Parish Assessors shall be compensated by the Parishes and the Assessors of the Parish of Orleans by the City of New Orleans. If under the referendum amendment submitted to the people at the same time this amendment is submitted providing a way to relieve municipalities from general parish taxes, subject to an obligation to contribute to certain funds, is adopted, then each municipality so relieved from such taxation, shall have the right by its governing authority, to provide for the appointment or election of its own assessor or assessors and to fix their compensation.

Article VIII.

1. In order to reimburse parishes and municipalities now free from parish taxes for loss of revenue caused by the withdrawal of the sources of State revenue from parish and municipal taxation, there is hereby granted to each parish and to each such municipal corporation the right to levy an additional tax of six mills on unsegregated property.

2. In order to similarly reimburse municipalities not now free from parish taxes each parish shall levy annually for eight years after January 1, 1914, the six mill tax aforesaid, or so much thereof as may be necessary, and out of the proceeds of this tax each parish shall, under the supervision of the Tax Commission, compensate each such municipality within its limits for loss of revenue caused by such withdrawal. Such compensation to be made on the basis provided in the following sentence for compensation by the State to parishes. If the proceeds of such tax remaining to each parish, added to the proceeds of the levy of the one per cent tax now permitted to be levied, after making the compensation aforesaid, shall not be sufficient to repay to said parish the sum it would have received by the levy of its present one per cent alimony tax on the basis of the assessment rolls of 1911, plus an increase of five per cent on the amount of said tax, then the State shall compensate each parish the amount of such deficiency as fixed and reported by the Tax Commission.

3. Any municipality now free, or hereafter made free, from parish taxation which is not reimbursed by the levy of the additional six mill tax, the power to levy which is hereby granted to it, shall be compensated by the General Assembly on the basis above provided for compensation by the State to the parishes, the amount of said compensation to be fixed by the Tax Commission.

4. The obligation to make the compensations herein provided for shall be mandatory on the General Assembly, but no such compensations shall be made after the year 1921.

5. After the year 1921, no parish shall levy any part of such six mills within the limit of any incorporated municipality and said municipalities shall be entitled to levy and collect such six mill tax for their own account.

6. The claims of each parish and municipality for compensation shall be presented to the Tax Commission, which shall examine such claims and report the facts and its conclusions to the General Assembly on or before the first day of each regular session.

7. In reimbursement for the State sources of revenue herein withdrawn from her assessed values, and for the joint benefit of her alimony and her existing one per cent debt tax, the city of New Orleans, after January 1, 1914, is hereby granted the right to levy annually and shall levy annually as long as said one per cent debt tax is required by law to be levied, an additional tax of six mills. Out of the proceeds of this tax, there shall be paid by preference annually to the Board of Liquidation of the City Debt, for the benefit of the one per cent debt tax, a sum equal to that which said tax produced in the year 1912 on the segregated sources of State revenue situated within the city limits, and the balance of the proceeds of said six mill tax shall go to the alimony fund of the city.

8. The two mill ad valorem special sewerage and water tax of the City of New Orleans shall continue to be levied as long as required by law on the sources of State revenue subject to an ad valorem tax.

9. In case the referendum amendment submitted to the people at the same time this amendment is submitted providing a way to relieve municipalities from general parish taxes subject to an obligation to contribute to certain funds, is adopted, then the power to levy six mills of additional taxes is hereby granted to all parishes voting for such release to be levied on property outside of the municipalities, and the power to levy six mills of additional taxes is hereby granted to each municipality so released to be levied on the property within its corporate limits, the obligation of the State to make compensation remaining the same. Whether said amendment shall be adopted or not the power to levy the extra tax of six mills hereby granted to all municipalites that are now exempt from parish taxes shall remain undisturbed.

10. And whether said amendment shall be adopted or not adopted, the police juries of the several parishes and the governing authorities of cities (the Parish of Orleans excented), and towns not subject to parish taxes, shall levy and collect and turn over to the duly constituted school authorities under the supervision and control of the State Board of Education, an amount equal to at least three-tenths of the gross amount of ad valorem taxes, which they levy and collect, provided that such amount shall never be less in any parish or municipality than the greatest amount due from such parish or municipality to the school board from the constitutional three mill school ad valorem tax collected for either the year 1911 or 1912, taking the year which yielded the highest amount. Provided further, that cities and towns that are not exempt from the payment of parish taxes shall not be required to pay this ad valorem tax if it be already imposed by the parish authorities; provided further, that this ad valorem tax shall not be imposed to the maximum whenever the school board certifies that a smaller levy will meet the needs of the schools.

11. All property the taxation of which is reserved to the State, except products of mines, of stone quarries, of sand, gravel or shell pits, and of oil or gas wells, as well as all other property, which may not be specially exempted from such taxation, shall continue to be subject to special taxes now in force, and shall be liable to such special taxes as may be imposed by local, special districts and political subdivisions in the future in accordance with law; provided that no parish or incorporated municipality shall levy a special tax for the support of any purpose which it is obligated to take care of out of its ordinary alimony, until it shall have first exhausted its ordinary taxing power, upon an assessment of at least fifty per cent of the market value of the property subject to its taxing authority.

12. Levy district taxes and forced contributions shall continue to be levied within each district on the sources of State revenue situated in each levee district, and all levee taxes and contributions shall be collected by the sheriff of each parish, under existing law, and in New Orleans by the State tax collectors until June 30, 1916, and thereafter by the collecting officer of the City of New Orleans.

13. The taxes mentioned in the foregoing sections 8, 11 and 12, as to property reserved for State revenue, shall be based on the assessment made by the State Tax Commission for State purposes, equalized annually by said Tax Commission in each parish or municipality to the basis of assessment therein locally established.

Article IX.

1. All revenues received by the State from all sources shall go into a fund called the General Fund, and the General Assembly shall apportion said fund among all the public purposes for which taxation is levied, setting aside, however, each year, the following:

A. For the General Public School Fund not less than one-fifth of the gross revenues of the State from all sources provided that such apportionment shall never be less than One Million and Thirty Thousand Dollars ($1,030,000.00).

B. For the General Engineer Fund, not less than Four Hundred Thousand Dollars ($400,000.00).

C. For Confederate Pensions, not less than the amount provided or to be provided by the Constitution.

D. For the Good Roads Fund, not less than One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($150,000.00), plus the whole proceeds of the State's moiety of the special automobile, taxicab and auto-driven vehicle tax.

E. For the Public Debt Fund not less than Five Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Dollars ($525,000.00) or not less than Six Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars ($650,000.00). If the Public Debt amendment submitted to the people at the same time this amendment is submitted is adopted.

Article X.

1. All State taxes and licenses except as hereinafter provided shall be collected by the State Treasurer. The General Assembly shall provide such additional clerical force in the Treasurer's office as may be necessary to enable him to perform the duties herein prescribed.

2. The General Assembly shall have the power to provide for special Revenue Agents, not to exceed three in number, to assist the Treasurer in collecting all licenses, and taxes, and to assist the Tax Commission in gathering information for levying assessments, and shall fix the compensation and duties of such agents.

Article XI.

1. All articles and parts of articles of the Constitution of 1898 on the subject of assessment and taxation, and all amendments thereto on said subjects contrary to or in conflict with the provisions of this amendment be and the same are hereby repealed.

SCHEDULE.

1. No part of this amendment to the Constitution shall go into effect until January 1st, 1914, except that the provisions of sections one, two, five, six and seven of Article III, as to special taxes, shall go into effect as soon as the General Assembly shall pass laws carrying them into effect, and the provisions of sections three and four of said Article shall go into effect on January 1st, 1913, provided laws carrying them into effect shall be passed on or before March 1, 1913; provided further, that laws carrying them into effect may be enacted at any later date.

2. On and after January 1st, 1914, the office of the State Board of Appraisers and the office of State Board of Equalization shall be abolished, but the present incumbents shall hold their offices at the present rate of compensation until their present terms shall expire, and they shall aid the Tax Commission in putting the system provided for in this amendment into operation, and in that connection they shall perform such duties as the Tax Commission and the General Assembly may prescribe.

3. The license tax authorized by the present Constitution to be levied on the severance of natural resources from the soil, shall be superseded by this amendment as to the severance of minerals, oil and gas, and shall be levied only on the severance of forest products.

4. When this amendment goes into effect on January 1, 1914, the special State taxes levied for good roads and for Confederate Veterans as now established or as may be established by the amendment to be submitted to the people at the same time this amendment is submitted, shall cease and the General Assembly shall make provision out of the General Fund for the benefit of each of these special funds as hereinabove provided.

5. All State taxes and licenses uncollected on January 1, 1914, for 1913 and previous years, shall be collected and accounted for, under existing laws, by the Sheriffs in the parishes, and the State Tax Collector in New Orleans, but all such collections must be completed by June 30, 1916, up to which date the State Tax Collector of New Orleans shall remain in office. He shall also collect all State licenses levied in the Parish of New Orleans until said date and the General Assembly shall provide for a reduction of his clerical force to take place on June 30, 1914. After June 30, 1916, any State licenses and taxes then remaining unpaid, shall be collected by the State Treasurer. The General Assembly shall by appropriate legislation provide compensation on an equitable basis to the tax collectors and assessors of the several parishes for the sums they may lose after January first, 1914, to the date of the expiration of their terms of office in commissions on the State taxes that would have accrued on the sources of revenue segregated to the State, provided that the State shall be under no obligation to reimburse them in any greater amount than will guarantee to them a sum equal to the total of the commissions of their office for the years 1911 or 1912, taking the year which shows the highest amount, and the General Assembly shall at its regular session in 1914 and 1916 make an estimate of the probable amount needed for such purpose, and make appropriation to cover the same; and at the biennial sessions of 1916 and 1918 it shall make a further appropriation to cover any deficiency.

6. The amendments to the Constitution submitted to the people at the same time that this amendment is submitted, proposing to exempt from taxation the objects therein specially set forth, if adopted, shall not be affected by the provisions of this amendment; nor shall this amendment be construed as affecting any property now exempt from taxation under the Constitution of 1898 and its amendments.

7. The Public Debt Amendment, submitted to the people at the same time this amendment is submitted, if adopted, shall be superseded by this amendment in respect to the mode of providing the public debt fund guaranteed by such amendment.

Prior to January 1, 1914, the General Assembly shall pass proper statutes to carry this amendment into operation; and the Governor shall call an extra session of that body for that purpose as soon as convenient after this amendment is adopted.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That there shall be printed on the ballots to be used at said election the words—

"For the amendment to the Constitution reorganizing and remodeling the State's system of assessment and taxation";

And the words—

"Against the amendment to the Constitution reorganizing and remodeling the State's system of assessment and taxation."

And each voter shall indicate on his ballot, as provided by the general election laws of the State, whether he votes for or against said amendment.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved: August 24th, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

Speaking of the Divorce Evil

Trying to succeed in business without advertising is like the case of the man who, trying to cut expenses, divorced his wife and alone attempted to keep house and raise his children. It cost him more money for doctor bills and funeral expenses in a year than he gave his wife in a lifetime.

When advertising is divorced, business success becomes failure.

This paper is building your neighbor's business. He has reasons. He tried advertising and it helped him. It is not an experiment—this paper brings results. Good, hard, convincing results—*dollars.*

RURALE OR PEON?

Love Affairs of a Mexican Girl.

BY LOUISE PALMER MILLER.

Carmelita sat in her father's house on a low log stool, crocheting, while Juan lay stretched on the floor at her feet, first looking into her pretty face, then watching her small brown fingers nimbly drawing the white threads into place by her crochet needle. He was telling her of his visit to the city and of the bold advance that the common peons had made in its capture the year before under the rising tide that surged throughout Mexico and submerged the brave Diaz.

It was not, however, the significance of the war that was holding the simple mind of Carmelita. She was interested in Juan's recital only because he told of the little city of which she had dreamed, but which she had never seen, although she had lived, since her birth, but forty miles from Culiacan. The only villages she had visited were much like her own.

She had only heard of Culiacan. There people lived in brick houses. Instead of couches made of branches they had beds hung with draperies and they had rugs on the floor. She had heard of white Americans building houses with windows of glass.

Juan, throughout his narration, man-like, thought Carmelita was interested in the heroic deeds and was flattered by her attentive mood. Suddenly, in a pause of his recital, she interposed: "Juan, I wish we were rich and could live in the city after we marry. It must be fine to ride in carriages and look into stores with all their bright clothing. Can't we move there some day, Juan?"

"You would not enjoy life in the hot city, my sweet," said Juan. "The houses are so closely built that you would smother for a breath of air. You could not watch the brilliant feathered birds nor see trees and bushes there. You could not bathe in the cool brook when the hot days come.

"The women of Culiacan are not fresh and beautiful as you are. Carmelita, the only roses that blossom on their cheeks are placed there by the use of red paint. Perhaps we can visit there at the time of our marriage, if we save a little each week out of our scanty earnings, but to live there, never! never! never!"

Carmelita did not raise her voice in protest, but in her heart the old craving did not die. There was always a hope that by some strange means she could live in a city where there were bands of music and a porch where people gathered to talk and promenade.

During the short silence between the two lovers, while Carmelita was resolving this hope within her mind, and Juan was comparing Carmelita favorably with all the other senoritas he had even seen, their silence was suddenly broken by the sound of hoofs on the road. Without, old Pedro, Carmelita's father, was halting his burro with that sizzing sound of the lips employed by the Mexican burro drivers.

Juan did not change his position, for he well knew that he was a welcome guest in the Casa of the old Pedro, as well as a welcome suitor for the hand of his daughter. The sound of another voice, however, caused him to glance up curiously. He immediately jumped to his feet with an attitude of respect. With old Pedro was a rurale dressed in all of the elegance of his uniform. "Welcome, Juan!" exclaimed the father of Carmelita. "Come forward to meet an officer of our country who has lost his way hereabouts in the mountains."

The rurale but half-greeted Juan, for he was looking quite past him with bold admiration for the girl seated on a rustic stool with a pile of crocheting in her hands. He had looked upon many peon maidens before, but none so free from the heavy Mexican features as this girl. He noticed the unusual fairness of the skin, the slenderness of the nose, the delicately-curved lips and the arch of the small brown feet. "White blood somewhere," he silently mused.

Carmelita's cheeks were flushed at his steady gaze, and, while her eyes were partly drooped, she was not blind to the strange bearing of this man before her. He was unlike any man she had ever seen in her life. He wore a suit of wool with gold buttons, as she thought, and on his feet were shining boots instead of sandals, and over his arm hung a cape lined with bright velvet. She might have remained long in her fancy of whether this was a dream or a real being, if her father had not demanded her to hurry a lunch for them.

When the rurale hailed old Pedro he gave him an extra pesa to hurry him on his journey with a quick lunch. Two days had passed now and yet he said nothing of his first intention to hurry to his regiment. Old Pedro asked him each morning if he should have his horse ready early for the journey, but the rurale proffered some offhand reason for a delay.

Juan haunted the front of Pedro's ramada like a shadow, lacking courage to assume his former position. Twice he had resolved to enter boldly, but each time he saw Carmelita sitting on her stool with the rurale near by. The third day he rallied a firm resolution to enter the casa and to face the rurale with an order to leave Carmelita alone, even if a year in prison were the result of his impudence. This time Carmelita and the rurale were sitting on the thong couch of old Pedro. They seemed unconscious of Juan's presence in the doorway. The rurale was telling her of his great wealth in the city: "You are too pretty a senorita to live hidden in the forest. If you will come to the city with me, there to marry, you would be known by the people of the world."

Juan was held to the spot as if by bands of steel. "But, don't you know," said the low voice of Carmelita, "that Juan has always intended to marry me? Ever since my mother's death my father has told Juan that he could have me. Juan is very brave, for he fought at the capture of Culiacan last year." Juan's heart leaped with a great joy, and he was about to gather her to him, when she continued: "But Juan does not like the city, he said never, never, never! Oh, this grieves me much because all of my life have I yearned for a carriage and a silk mantel."

"Yes, and so you should have," urged the rurale, as if foiling his nay, point by point. "You can go with me on my return. See, here is a lace revorsa for your journey into the city. The dresses we can purchase immediately after our arrival, and you can be dressed as befitting a lady." He drew from his pocket a revorsa and put it into her hands. Never had she seen a fabric so fine.

"We will go tonight after the dance. It will be better not to tell your father until after our marriage. Place this revorsa in your dress and wear it tonight at the time of your departure." With these words he pressed her to him and said: "Promise." "Yes," she said thoughtfully. The fingers of Juan had been running along the edge of his stilleto until this last word and this last hope. "Instead of plunging it into the back of the rurale, let me keep it for myself," and he slunk away under the glare of the noontide sun.

That night at the dance Juan was not seen. "Where is Juan?" was the query from young and old. Carmelita shook her head, but her mind was busy with the same question, "Where is Juan?" She danced less gaily than she had ever done in her life.

At the close of the dance she returned home with her father. She lay down to sleep for the night, but she continually listened for the step of Juan. If she could only hear him speak. If he would approach to kill her, it would be better than this eating silence.

Suddenly a firm tread passed in front of her casa. She knew his step. She heard Juan arouse his mother in the silence of the night. "Mother, I to the other ranches—not more here. Tomorrow follow me on burro."

She heard the creak of his saddle as he sprang to the back of his horse. She heard the even walk of the hoofs. The horse did not canter, but it kept a slow step, step, fainter and fainter, until she could no longer deceive her ear into counting the step. Juan had gone and buried her out of his life.

She listened a few minutes in the hope that he might return, then she unclenched her stinging palm from the leather thongs of the couch. She arose, and, feeling the soft bulge of the lace revorsa, she took it from her dress and stamped it into the dirt of the floor. If she ran through the breecha, which cut off two kilometers of distance to the road Juan had taken, she could reach the crossing point before Juan arrived there.

It was nearing the hour of dawn when she reached the crossing of the road. The Mexican sky was filled with the pink reflection of the sun. At the crossroad she stopped for breath for the first time—"Juan, Juan, Juan!" was the silent voice within. For a time she thought he had passed. She was about to hasten on when the click of a horse's hoof held her. Not for a second did she doubt that it might not be Juan. Life was returning to her again as she fell on her knees. The faint shadow of a horse and man was approaching. Not daring to meet his gaze, she buried her face in her arms. His horse stopped of its own accord in front of her. Juan urged it gently with his foot, then he sat looking at the figure in the road. Not until he had jumped to his feet did he recognize Carmelita. His hand passed in front of his eyes as if brushing away a vision, when a sob aroused him. "Carmelita," he said.

She did not lift her face till he himself lifted it and held it long between his hands. Neither knew how all happened after that, but he held her closely and she clung to him with both hands. He then lifted her to the horse in front of him and turned the horse for the walk homeward.

Beerbohm Tree's Ride.

A story is told concerning Beerbohm Tree, who, after an evening at one of the London clubs, called a hansom from a nearby stand he frequently patronized.

"Home," shouted Tree to the cabby, who was a new one about town.

"Beg pardon," said the man.

"Home," repeated Tree in commanding tone, and the driver whipped up his horse. He drove his fare about for half an hour or so and then returned again. Stopping his horse and arousing the sleepy actor, he apologized and asked to what number he should drive.

"Home," thundered Mr. Tree, this time thoroughly indignant.

"And where might your home be?" queried the cabby, shaking in his boots.

"You idiot," replied Tree, "do you think I'm going to tell you where my beautiful home is?"

Adversity corrects the census of your true friends. Prosperity only multiplies hypocrites, as the sunshine brings out the gnats