

OCALA EVENING STAR

Volume 11 Number 84.

OCALA, FLORIDA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1905

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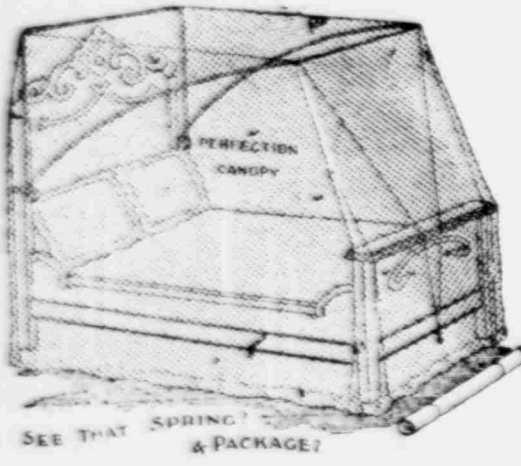
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WIVES OF A GREAT CITY

Homes Found on Farms in the West and a New, Useful Life.

CHILDREN ARE HAPPY

85 Per Cent of Those Sent West Grow to Be Respected and Useful Citizens. While Only 25 Per Cent of Those in City Turn Out Well. Not All Homes Are Good.

While much is said about the steady influx of young men and women to the great cities, a movement which is estimated to add more than one hundred to this city's population every day, little is said of the counter current which is taking the wives of the metropolis to good homes in the Middle West. The institution which does this work is the New-York Juvenile Asylum.

In the last fifty years the Juvenile Asylum has placed six thousand of its wards in private homes in the West, and this work is regarded by Superintendent Hilles and the directors as the most valuable that the institution performs. For it has been found that the children placed in wholesome homes in the West over 85 per cent grow to be useful and respected citizens, while of those who remain in the city only 25 per cent turn out equally well.

There are many thick volumes at the Juvenile Asylum made up of letters from youngsters who, on Western farms, are gaining a firm foothold and a new outlook upon life. Of course mistakes sometimes occur. Not all the homes are good, not all the children thankful. The asylum depends on its visitors, who inspect several times each year the condition of its wards, to discover any case of ill-treatment and to remove any one who is not properly taken care of. Last year five such instances were brought to light. Two of these sprang from a deliberate attempt to induce the wards, young men nearly eighteen years old, to desert and consequently abandon the \$50 and new suit of clothes which were due to each of them on his eighteenth birthday. The boys wrote that while they had hitherto been treated well, recently there had been a complete change. A visitor discovered the reason for this and the wards were taken from their homes. In one case the farmer was compelled to pay the boy \$12, besides letting him take away \$14 which he had put in a toy bank. In the other instance the farmer paid \$24 and the sale of a pet calf formerly given to the boy brought \$36 more. A third case was that of a boy who was so badly clothed that his feet were frozen. The man who had charge of him was sued by the asylum authorities and judgment of \$50 was secured against him.

The asylum's official visitors see that the ward is well treated, but there is no sure way of seeing that the ward treats his guardian well. In the majority of cases, however, the children are anxious to please and as grateful as could be asked. Not infrequently one comes on pathetic letters as self-accusation. The following is from a fifteen-year-old girl: "I have never regretted coming West, and I think it is the most beautiful part of the country. I can do almost all kinds of housework, except nice pastry cooking. My guardians have lived in the same house nearly thirty-eight years. I shall stay in my home after I am of age if my guardians are willing. I hope I shall get to be a better girl soon, but it seems doubtful; and I make so much trouble that I sometimes wish I had never come West. It is a trying ordeal for my guardian to keep me, and I sometimes think that I will never come to any good, but I will promise you to strive to do better. Mrs. Warren thinks I am very slovenly, and she gets out of patience with my work and my tongue. I was always left to run loose in New York, and I think I was put in the asylum."

Mrs. Warren's view of the case was not quite so black. She wrote: "Annie has improved in ability to work, and I live in hopes that she will do better as she grows older. She has a good education, and can write a very good letter, but she has a saucy tongue that is very trying to endure."

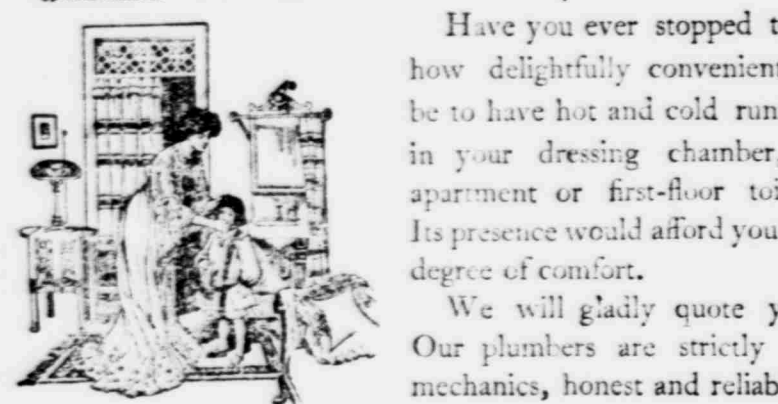
Instances of asylum boys whose names are now well known in many parts of the country are frequent. For example, in the last contest for the Illinois Governorship John J. Brown, County Judge of Vandallia County, was prominently mentioned as a candidate to run against Governor Yates. Mr. Brown was sent to Vandallia County by the asylum in 1861 and placed with William Hemminger, a prosperous farmer. Mr. Hemminger's two sons declined their father's offer to send them to college, and instead he sent young Brown. After graduating Mr. Brown studied law and became active in State politics. The rector of one of the largest churches in Brooklyn is an old asylum boy, and one of Chicago's best known lawyers declares that he got his start in life when six years old by stealing apples from a pushcart on the Bowery—a crime for which he was sent to the asylum.

Rooms to Let in Paris.

A white card on a Parisian dwelling house indicates that furnished apartments are to be let. A yellow card informs pedestrians that unfurnished rooms may be had. The object is to save passers-by the trouble of crossing the street if they chance to be on the opposite side, in case such rooms as they desire are not advertised.—Exchange.

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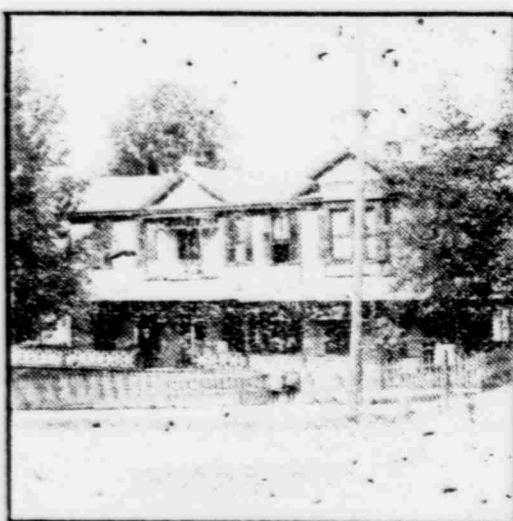
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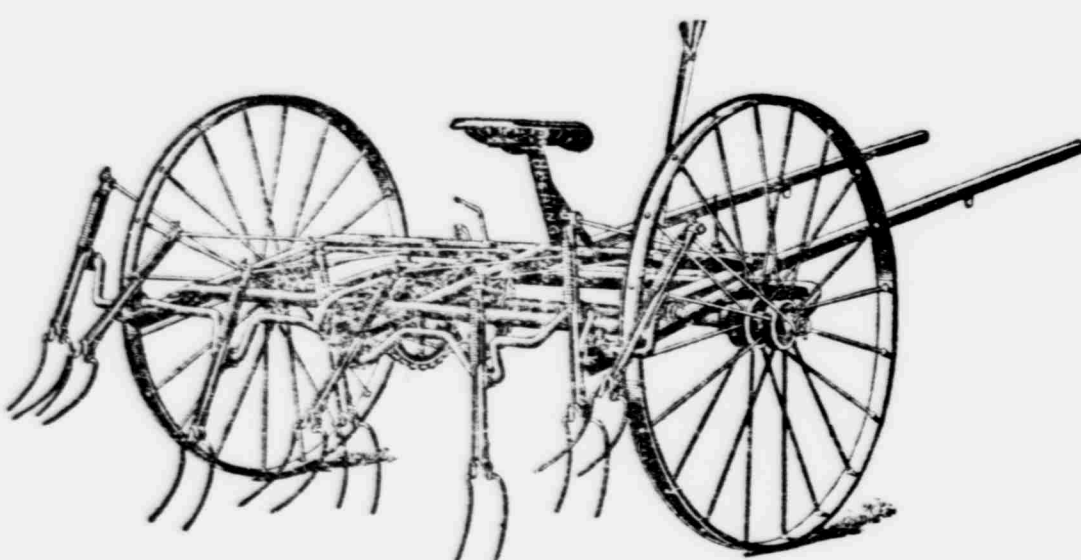
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U. S. LEADS IN DIVORCES

Make Marriage Irremediable, Says Dr. Parkhurst.

A WAY TO ENTER SOCIETY

Clergymen Aroused—The Episcopal Board Introduced a Canon Doing Away With Divorces—It is Now Within Discretion of Ministers to Decline to Marry Divorcees.

The discovery that San Francisco, Los Angeles, Kansas City, and Seattle count divorces at the rate of one to every four marriages is all the more significant when it is considered that Paris, long famed for the laxity of its morals, records nineteen marriages to every divorce.

In 1901 Paris had 9,404 more marriages than Chicago, and 486 less divorces. Nor is it only in France that the United States suffers by comparison.

The statistics compiled by the United States Commissioner of Labor show that the increase in the number of divorces granted in this country has been at the rate of 5.4 per cent a year. On this basis, those permitted in 1905 will number 48,820, says The Globe.

On the other hand recent statistics of Great Britain, France, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Sweden, Russia, and the Netherlands show that the increase in Europe has been at the rate of .075 per cent a year. This would place the total for Europe and Australia for 1905 at 23,127.

If, therefore, the increase has been maintained at 5.4 per cent a year, as every indication would seem to point, the United States at the present time issues each year twice as many divorces as Europe, Canada, and Australia combined.

Thinking men and women the world over have not been slow to recognize this great menace to society and the home. W. E. Gladstone himself, shortly before his death, sounded a note of warning particularly directed at the United States.

"The future of America in its highest features," said he, "naturally depends upon the incidents of marriage. No country has ever been so directly challenged as America now is to choose its course definitely with reference to one of the very greatest of those incidents."

"The solidity and health of the social body depend upon the soundness of its unit. That unit is the family; and the hinge of the family is to be found in the great and profound institution of marriage."

"It might be too much to say that a good system of marriage law and of the practice appertaining to it, of itself, insures the well being of a community. But I cannot doubt that this converse is true, and that, if the relations of husband and wife are wrongly comprehended in what most belongs to them, either as to law or as to conduct, no nation can rise to the fulfillment of the higher destinies of man."

"While divorce of any kind impairs the integrity of the family, divorce with re-marriage destroys it with root and branch."

On this side of the Atlantic, the highest minds of the clergy have sought a remedy. The Methodist Episcopal church, at its last general conference, recognizing a united effort on the part of the Protestant churches of the United States "to rouse the religious and moral sentiment of the land in defense of the purity and stability of the marriage relation," appointed representatives to the Inter-church conference, and urged upon its ministers the strict enforcement of the law of the church forbidding the re-marriage of all divorced persons. The law makes an exception in the case of the innocent party in a divorce obtained for infidelity.

The general assembly of the Presbyterian Church North enjoined all the ministers of the church to refuse to perform marriages in the cases of divorced persons, except those divorced for causes allowed by the standards of the church.

At the general convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church a canon doing away with all divorce was introduced in the House of Deputies.

Although this failed of passage, provision was made that it would be within the discretion of any minister to decline to celebrate the marriage of divorced persons. In this way those ministers who have conscientious objections to the re-marriage of all divorced persons are left free to decline to officiate at such marriages.

The National League for the Protection of the Family, an association with such men as Nathaniel Shuman, Bishop Lawrence of Massachusetts, Seth Low, and President George Harris of Amherst at its head, has also been very active in its efforts to obtain uniform divorce legislation for the whole of the United States. Practically every clergyman of note in this city has assailed the evil from his pulpit, but the sore spreads, and radical measures are needed in order to check its progress.

In one unbroken nocturnal flight the European bird known as the northern bluetroat has been known to travel from Central Africa to the German Ocean, a distance of 1,600 miles, making the journey in nine hours.

Lizards were the only living things found by the expedition which recently, for the first time, explored the region in Australia lying south of the MacDonnell Mountains. On one occasion they were ten days without finding water.

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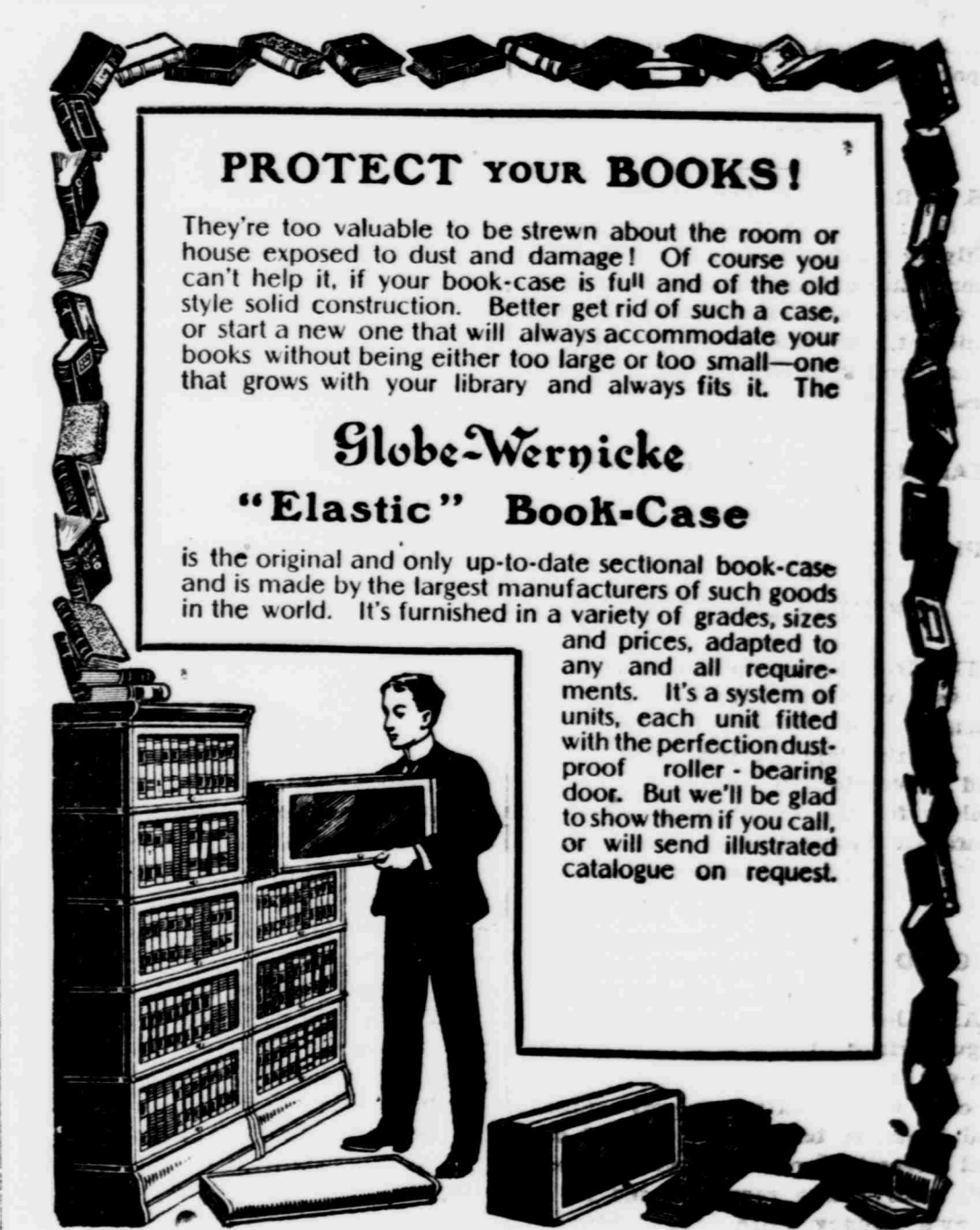
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