

# CASSIUS M. CLAY



ONE and a half miles west of the postoffice in White Hall, Ky., stands the \$90,000 mansion of General Cassius Marcellus Clay, the great abolitionist, who fought a duel with Robert Wickliffe, killed St. Turner with a bowie knife, carved Will Brown with the same weapon, making him an invalid for life, served through the Mexican war with distinction and acted as President Lincoln's Minister to Russia during the late war. The General named it "White Hall," and through the courtesy of the son of Will Brown, who was in the Postoffice Department, he succeeded in having this postoffice called after his famous home. The house was built while he was Minister to Russia, and is one of the largest and most commodious residences in Kentucky. The drawing-room is by far the largest south of Mason and Dixon's line, and on its walls are hung some of the choicest paintings by the most noted Russian, European and American artists. It is here that the venerable General is living with his child-wife, Dora Richardson, for whose benefit he is trying to get a pension from the United States Government.

His friend, Senator Lindsay, not long ago introduced a bill in Congress giving General Clay a pension of \$100 per month in consideration of his services as a Mexican soldier. Although General Clay has been importuned frequently to apply for a pension, he has steadfastly declined to do so. He owned nearly 2,000 acres of the finest land in Madison County, and when his first wife, who was a Miss Warfield, of Lexington, secured a divorce from him he divided the land among his children. But he collects a nominal rent for each of the farms, and the home place, including White Hall, he reserved for his own use. It contains about 200 acres. A portion of it is in cultivation, but the most of it is in grass, on which the General raises the finest Southdown sheep in America. Each fall he ships his mutton to Eastern markets, and on several occasions he has sent mutton

his bride from the humble walks of life, as he believed that such a wife would give him that love and affection which he sought for in vain among those of nobler birth, her brother went to her and told her that the General was actually in earnest, and advised her that as she was an orphan it would be best for her to marry General Clay, notwithstanding that he was so high above her in social rank, and that there was such a disparity in their ages. The child, having always been treated kindly by the General, finally consented to become his wife, and a few months afterward it became generally known in the neighborhood that General Clay would marry Dora Richardson within two years.

But the General's son, Brutus J. Clay, heard of his father's engagement and tried to break it off. He called on his father and urged him not to take such a foolish step. The interview ended in the General driving his son from the house and telling him to never set foot on the place again as long as he lived.

The General says that Brutus then offered a reward of \$500 to anybody who would steal Dora away so that his father could not marry her. When the General heard of this his old-time fighting blood was soon at boiling heat. He sent for Dora's brother to come into his library. He told him what he had heard Brutus was going to do, and instructed him to hire four fearless men who were not afraid to shoot and kill and report to him that afternoon. In the meantime the General went to Richmond, bought three Winchester rifles, two double-barreled shotguns and five large revolvers. He laid in a large supply of ammunition and returned home with his arsenal. He armed each of the men with a gun and a pistol and instructed them to shoot any suspicious person seen on the place. The General himself would not retire to bed to sleep, but would keep watch in his library, catching a nap now and then while sitting in his armchair.

The wildest reports were soon in cir-



to England to grace the Queen's table. General Clay was sued for divorce by his first wife. The General made no fight against Mrs. Clay, and the petition for absolute divorce was granted. Under ordinary conditions the wife has a lifetime interest in her husband's property in Kentucky, but it appears that in the General's case his present wife can surely hold an interest in his estate should he die first. It is to guard against her being unprovided for that the independent old soldier has finally agreed to apply for a pension.

The marriage of the "Sage of White Hall" to his 14-year-old house girl occurred on Dec. 13, 1894. There were many peculiar features which marked the wedding and made it one of the most remarkable marriages that ever occurred in Kentucky. About two years before the wedding Dora Richardson, accompanied by her mother and little brother, was caught on the railroad bridge which spans the Kentucky River at Valley View, by a freight train. Dora pushed her little brother off the track and saved him. She then clung to the trestle and saved herself, but her mother was killed before her eyes. The story of the tragedy and of the heroism displayed by Dora touched the heart of General Clay, and he determined to give the motherless girl a home. At that time he had in his employ a giant shepherdess, Mary Tooney, who he had imported from Scotland to care for his Southdown sheep. Mrs. Tooney at first was very kind to Dora, but within a year after she was taken into the household the child had to submit to severe treatment at the hands of the shepherdess. When General Clay heard of this he was wild with anger and he summarily discharged Mrs. Tooney and employed Dora's elder brother to care for the sheep.

When General Clay first proposed marriage to Dora she ran from him and went to the home of a married sister, crying. She did not want to return to White Hall, but when the General explained to her brother that he was in earnest; that he had chosen his first wife from an aristocratic family, and had found that marriage a failure; that he wished to marry again, she went to take

ulation in the neighborhood, and it was not long till everybody in that end of Madison county had heard that "Cash" Clay, as he was called by the natives, had gone crazy and had an armed guard around his house, which had been instructed to shoot the first man that came on the place. Knowing the determination of the General, the neighbors were afraid to go near him, but his children sent a well-known minister to talk the matter over with him. He gave the man of God a careful hearing, but when he had finished the General told him that he had made up his mind to marry Dora Richardson, and he intended to do so.

The next day the General went to Richmond to get his license to marry the child, secured the services of a minister, and the next morning they were married. He found his bride an ignorant country girl. She could read a little, but could scarcely write her name. He employed a governess to teach her, and had a music teacher to give her lessons on that instrument. The governess, finding she could never teach her charge any of the higher accomplishments, abandoned the task. The General is now in his eighty-seventh year. He knows his children will not take care of Dora, therefore he wants a pension.

**Obtaining Fresh Water.**  
Alexander Graham Bell's latest mechanical device is in the line of practical utility, like most of his inventions. It is intended for the fishermen who are frequently cut off from their vessels by fog, and lose their lives as frequently by lack of drinking water as by exposure. The invention consists of a glass cylinder or bottle, through the neck of which is a small rubber tube. The glass is submerged, and a brass cylinder acting as a bellows, pumps the rise and fall of the waves, pumps the atmosphere into the submerged bottle. There it becomes condensed, and a supply of fresh drinking water is always to be obtained.

No man ever married a second time without the women saying he was mean to his first wife.

## MINDFUL OF THE HORSES.

### A Statesman Narrates a Tale of His Trials and Tribulations.

"A prophet is not without honor, save in his own country," quoted the Washington Star reporter to a distinguished statesman.

"Nor a member of Congress save in his own district," responded the statesman to whom he was talking, and who happened to be a representative from a State whose name shall not be mentioned here.

"Are they so bad as that?"

"Well," laughed the statesman, "be good for a few minutes and I'll tell you a story. When I was running for Congress in my second race, that is to say, for re-election, I had one appointment in the most remote county, to which I had to go alone, my traveling companion having been taken sick. I knew only a few of the people, as it was very strongly the other way, and I did not cultivate it very zealously, and I scarcely knew the country at all. However, I got in a speech one night, and after it was over was picking my way back to the house where I was to sleep. In the course of my wanderings I struck an old shack of a railing, and the next thing I knew I had gone through it and dropped into a well of some kind, very large and with perhaps four feet of water in it. I wasn't hurt, but I was scared, and I set up a lusty shout, which soon brought a couple of men to the rescue."

"Who's that?" called one of them down through the dark.

"It's me," I answered. "Colonel Blank, the member of Congress. Help me out of this."

"In response to this there was a consultation, most of which I heard.

"'Oh, I say, Bill,' laughed the one who had first called, as if talking to some one farther away. 'It's that Congressman that's been makin' the pow-wow at the school house.'

"'Gosharinny,' haw-hawed the other one; 'let's let him stay that. I'll only be one Congressman less, and him the one we want to beat.'

"'Dern of I wouldn't like to,' said the first, hesitatingly, 'but if we do it'll spile the well, an' what'll the hosses and cows do fer drinkin' water?'

"What other pleasing reflections they might have cast upon me," concluded the gentleman, "I don't know, for I became impatient and set up such a row that they were forced to come to my assistance in a hurry."

### Unique Pianos.

All manner of articles in place of wood have been used in the manufacture of pianos, says one of the greatest English piano makers. Perhaps the most successful of these is paper, of which many pianos of exquisite tone and appearance have been made. The Duke of Devonshire has one of the finest specimens of the paper piano, this being of French make, and decorated most ornately with pictures by French artists. The duke gave five hundred guineas for this, mainly, no doubt, on account of the ornamentation. I suppose you know that pianos for very hot and for very cold climates—all instruments for export, in fact—have to be specially made, and in this direction all manner of experiments have been tried. Among others, a sort of cellulose, one factor in which is actually common molasses, from which sugar is made, is employed, and a composition made from the chemical treatment of gutta percha and leather pulp has been tried. Ivory pianos are by no means uncommon, and the dowager Countess of Dudley has a magnificent carved specimen. Pianos of ivory are, I might say, made every year in numbers, but chiefly for Indian princes and rich Spanish Americans. Many pianos of solid silver have been made; indeed, one was only recently completed by a London firm for the nizam of Hyderabad, and piano cases have at various times been made of bronze, a species of aluminum, glass, porcelain, and in combination mother of pearl.

### Dreams.

The following are medical signs of dreams, as published in a medical work: Lively dreams are in general a sign of nervous action. Soft dreams a sign of slight irritation of the brain; often, in nervous fever, announcing the approach of a favorable crisis. Frightful dreams are a determination of blood to the head. Dreams about blood and red objects are signs of inflammatory conditions. Dreams about rain and water are often signs of diseased mucous membranes and dropsy. Dreams of distorted forms are frequently a sign of abdominal obstructions and disorder of the liver. Dreams in which the patient sees any part of the body especially suffering indicates disease in that part. The nightmare, with great sensitiveness, is a sign of determination of blood to the chest.

**A Simple Test for Impurity in Water.**  
Decaying organic matter is never found in appreciable quantity in pure water. If to a glassful of such water a few drops of sulphuric acid and a few drops of a dilute solution of potassium permanganate be added, a permanent pink color is produced; but if the water contains decaying organic matter, then the pink color becomes fainter, and finally disappears. In the hands of an expert this is an important test, but it cannot always be relied on with a novice, since ferrous sulphate, hydrogen sulphide, and other reducing agents, sometimes present in water, produce similar results. But, when a water shows an excess of chlorine and bleaches potassium permanganate, it is certainly suspicious, and should be analyzed by an expert.

### Pearls.

In China the minute pearls are often used, ground into dust, as medicine. It is believed to be a specific for sore eyes, and, indeed, in the higher pharmacopoeia, powdered pearls is a constant item of the prescription.

## STATUE OF CHOATE.

### The Historic Jurist and Statesman to Be Honored.

The memory of Rufus Choate, the historic jurist and statesman, is to be honored with an appropriate monument in bronze. David C. French, the noted New York sculptor, has just completed a life-size statue of Choate, which is to

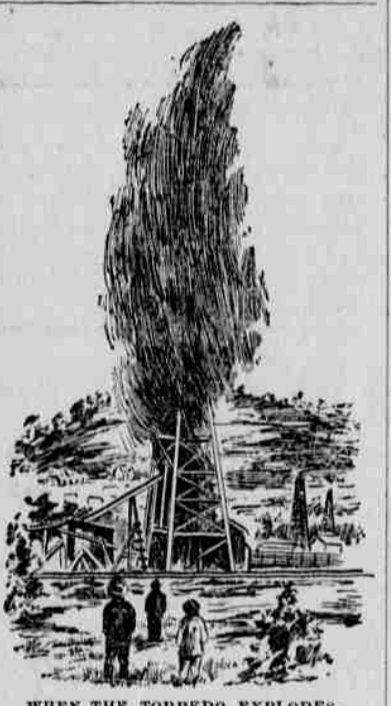


erected in the newly built court house in Boston. The statue in the clay has been inspected by Joseph Choate, the distinguished nephew of the great man, and it is said that he has pronounced it a most admirable portrait, both in feature and figure. The statue depicts Mr. Choate in one of his characteristic attitudes. He is standing erect, one hand grasping the hpel of his Prince Albert coat, the other holding a number of pages of notes, from which he is speaking. The pedestal on which the bronze figure will rest is to be of marble, and the total height of pedestal and statue will be about fourteen feet. The monument is a gift to the city of Boston by some person who does not desire that his name shall be known. Rufus Choate was a native of Massachusetts and was born in 1799. He was a descendant of the old Puritan stock. He was educated at Dartmouth, studied law, and, like his nephew, devoted the best work of his life to its practice. As a lawyer he was pre-eminent. He wrote some memoirs that are still read, and he might have been great as a statesman had he had the ambition to pursue politics. His career as Congressman and Senator was remarkable in an era of great men. He died in 1859.

## A FLOWING PETROLEUM WELL.

### Powerful Explosive is Lowered and Forces Out a Torrent of Oil.

Among the impressive oil region spectacles the shooting of an oil well all ways takes front rank. The well that is to be shot has been drilled to the oil producing strata of sand rock, and there the oily fluid is held in the pores of the rocky formation. In some instances the gas pressure is sufficient to blow the oil into the hole drilled in the rock, and no other means is required to get the oil to the top of the ground.



This is only in exceptional cases. The general way is to lower a long torpedo so as to pass inside of the casing, down to the bottom of the hole. The torpedo is a tin can of probably 10 feet in length. Inside the can the space is filled with nitro-glycerine. A percussion cap on the top of the can is so arranged that the dropping of a weight or go-devil causes the device to explode. The rock is rent over the bottom of the well, and a basin is formed which becomes a reservoir to pump from when the well is ready for that part of the business. The cut shows the torrent of oil that rushes from the subterranean depths when the torpedo or "shot" is exploded.

## Acetylene.

"The Explosion and Detection of Acetylene in Air" is the title of a paper recently read before the Chemical Society; and as many persons are interested in this new illuminating gas, a short account of the results arrived at by this experimenter will not be out of place. A mixture of acetylene and air becomes explosive when as little as three per cent. of the gas is present, and the tendency to explode persists up to eighty-one per cent. This range is extraordinarily wide, and exceeds that of any combustible gas known.

## Novelty in Headgear.

Aluminum helmets have not proved successful in the German army, the saving in weight being more than offset by the metal's storing heat, even to blistering the foreheads of the wearers.

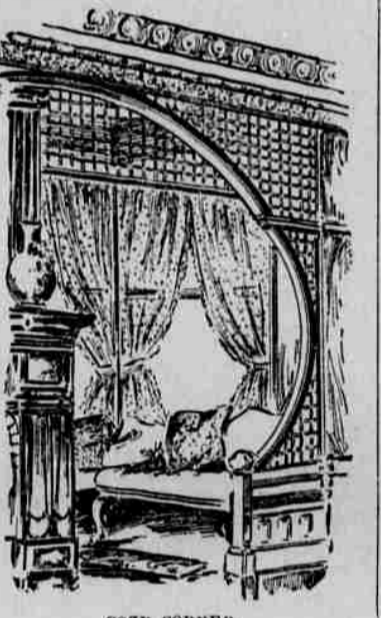


## UNDERSTOOD BUSINESS BETTER

THROUGH the business women other women are coming to understand more about the value of money. It has always been one of the most cherished masculine theories that women are entirely incapable of understanding anything about finance. A father, who had hundreds of thousands of dollars to leave to his daughters, would let them grow up in such absolute ignorance of such matters that when they came into possession of their fortunes they did not know whereabouts on a check to sign their names. A man harassed with business losses will let his wife go on ignorantly spending money and making bills he cannot pay. The result has been that women have been the victims of all sorts of dishonest men, who have robbed them of their money because they had not been taught to take care of it. The business woman knows better, and it is largely through her influence that it has come to be looked upon as silly, not interesting, for a woman not to understand the rudiments at least of financial transactions. In New York one of the fads of the winter among fashionable women is to belong to bookkeeping classes.—New Orleans Picayune.

## Decorations of Tissue Paper.

In a certain elegant bank that caters to women there is a cozy corner that, while intended for work as well as play, is very effectively furnished in brilliant green. There is a broad lattice over the doorway and a curving arch—all of tissue paper. And there are rugs, pillows and vases entirely of the fra-



gile yet firm material. The lattice is made over strips of thin pasteboard. The strips are cut an inch wide and the crinkled paper glued on. Brass nail heads clamp the slats in place. When hung it is firm and lasting, and looks precisely like the green arbor of childhood recollections. The rug is made the same, with the paper doubled twice over the pasteboard. The vases are of wood covered with paper, and the pillows are of two thicknesses of tough Chinese rice paper, which is untearable. The corner is mightily admired, and has the great merit of not being too expensive to throw away after one is tired of it.—Chicago Chronicle.

## Latest in Dress Sleeves.

The first of these three new sleeves has a very high cuff, slashed with chiffon plaiting let in the slashes. Above this there is a small, plaited puff of silk, and over this an epaulet of cloth of the same material as the dress, whatever it may be. The second is what is called a coat sleeve, perfectly plain, the only trimming being a broad binding on each seam; the binding broadens out and is cut into epaulets slashed to form a sort of rever at the shoulder. This is very popular upon tailor-made dresses. The third is a soft silk sleeve; this is suitable for India or any other light summer silk. The sleeve is in small gathers all the way up to the shoulders, where it has one big puff, below which a lace ruffle falls. A pretty appearance is given by pulling a strip of silk out through the sleeve in



such a way as to form little puffs. A ruff of double chiffon completes the wrist.

## Engagement Etiquette.

When a man has received the answer which is conventionally supposed to have made him the happiest creature in the world his first step must be to

secure the reality of that supposition by asking the consent of his future bride's parents or guardians.

It is correct to see the parents, not write to them, unless the latter course is the only one possible to take. When consent is given the engagement is looked upon as a settled thing, and the next thing is to make it known.

This should be done in the very first instance by the bridegroom expectant, who announces it to his family. They should without delay call upon his fiancée, expressing their pleasure at the news, and assuring her of a welcome among them.

These calls should be returned, or the letters answered, with promptitude; and now the general public is informed of the event. This may be done by writing to distant friends and telling others by word of mouth. It is usual to send a notice of the engagement to certain papers, where it is likely to be widely seen.

The bridegroom's first care should be to provide the engagement ring, the outward sign and symbol of the promise exchanged. It is usual to let the bride's taste select it, and he may either ascertain her preferences before buying it, or send a tray from the jeweler for her to select from.

Friends and acquaintances, on hearing of the engagement, should at once send their congratulations and good wishes. This may either be done by calling in person to deliver them, or by writing. Calls of congratulation should be returned and letters answered. A few words of cordial thanks are all that is required.

During an engagement some of the stricter rules of chaperonage are relaxed. Engaged people are allowed to ride, cycle and walk together unattended, though not, of course, so publicly as necessitates a chaperon as well.

## Taking Care of the Teeth.

If your dentist is honest—and most of them are—he will tell you that if people would only exercise ordinary care they would materially reduce his income and that of others in the same profession. The dentist should be visited about once every three months. In this way the teeth can be kept in good condition, because the dentist is able to detect the first sign of trouble and may take measures to prevent its going too far.

When a tooth begins to decay it not only affects itself, but the teeth that are next to it, and it also affects the breath in the most unpleasant manner. It also causes indigestion. The best way to prevent this decay is to see that no food is allowed to lodge between the teeth. You should not only brush your teeth thrice a day, but after every meal. Brush them from the gums to the crown of the tooth; in this way the particles of food that are lodged between the teeth will be dislodged. If the teeth are only brushed lengthwise, as is generally the case, the food, instead of being brushed out, will be more firmly lodged than ever. You should keep a skein of dental silk always beside you to pass between the teeth and clean them effectively from anything that has got between them which the tooth brush cannot reach. Great care must be taken of the gums, as if these become spongy they are apt to recede from the teeth and leave the roots exposed, and decay sets in very rapidly in consequence. If the gums are kept in proper order the teeth will remain healthy and in good condition.



Gros grain silk is revived again for dressy gowns by matronly women.

Irish lace is very popular for yokes and epaulettes effects on foulard gowns, and is used in edging and insertion as well.

Serpent skin is a new trimming for tailor made gowns, and it is employed for entire revers and tiny bands on the cloth revers.

Fancy little bolero jackets are made of ecrú linen, with a sailor collar across the back, and elaborately embroidered with gold thread.

Ruffs of chiffon lace and ribbon are very fashionable in Paris, and they are made high at the back, with long ends in front and a deep flounce of chiffon around the shoulders.

Women who have to make a special point of combining use and beauty in their gowns, and who for one reason or another do not care for coats, are pleased with the new open-front jackets which are made of light-weight fabrics, with meagre lining. The frock is made from Yale blue canvas cloth over black taffeta silk. The waist is without fitted lining, the silk being cut in the same pattern as the outside canvas cloth. The blouse is held in place at the belt with a drawing string. Over the hip is a smart frill, which comes off with the belt; for the blouse finishes inside the skirt.