

AN EPIDEMIC

By Marthas McCulloch-Williams

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"I have my opinion," Mrs. March said impressively, "of folks that don't know no more'n to give a candy pull. You don't go to it, Louiza; not one step. I've brought you up genteel and genteel you've got to stay while you stay with me and your pa."

"Hmp! That's likely to be always, the dikes you cut up," her spinster sister-in-law, Miss Mary-Bet, sniffed. "Patience knows, if I had a girl like Louiza, comin' on twenty-one, and four more a-crowdin' her, I'd be glad and thankful of any chance to show her off. And I'd like to have you tell me what there is against a candy pull? Dear knows, I've seen better'n you at 'em and havin' a mighty good time."

Miss Mary-Bet had "means," hence her outspoking. Squire March had charged his wife never to argue with her. Therefore that lady contented herself with a mild retort.

"I can't say as it's real sinful, unless they mean to have playin' afterward. And I hope you don't think I hold with them kissin' games."

"I don't know but you'd better," Miss Mary-Bet said ruminatively. "I say let Louiza go, and Mary-Bet and Sally too."

"My! That would be a team of Marches," Mrs. March said, drawing down the corners of her mouth.

"Miss Mary-Bet got up decisively. "There's goin' to be four Marches," she announced. "I'm goin' myself. I know the Peterses would 'a' asked me if they hadn't thought it wasn't worth while. And I'm goin' to take my nieces and buy 'em a new frock and ribbons and shoes. Don't you say a word, Hannah! One old maid in the family is more'n enough."

Mrs. March gasped; she was past speech. Miss Mary-Bet was commonly so close with her money her present liberal mind was in the nature of a miracle. But if she repented it she held fast to her word and trotted off a week later to the Peterses in the highest possible feather.

Louiza was gorgeous in a plaid frock—green, blue and purple; Mary-Bet junior sported a scarlet delaine, and little Sally, a yellow haired fairy who

looked like a changeling among her high colored brunette sisters, was in robin egg with little reliefs of white.

Miss Mary-Bet herself was a picture of elegance in a span new black silk. Mrs. March declared it was tempting providence to wear such a thing where molasses candy was so to abound, but Miss Mary-Bet had only tossed her head and marched off with it something higher than usual.

She was rising forty, also fat and fair. Her sharp tongue and masterful ways had kept men rather in awe of her. Now that youth was past she began to see that the world wagged mainly for married folk, so she had made up her mind to marry off her nieces out of hand in spite of their mother.

Louiza was not much of a problem. She was so kindly and sweet spirited, withal so much a born economist, at least three personable widowers were thought to be on tenterhooks about her, each waiting the lucky chance that would let him speak his wish. All of them would be at the candy pull, and each should have his chance.

"Miss Mary-Bet had cautioned Louiza not to be precipitate. "Don't let any man have it to throw up to you that you couldn't get anybody else," she had said. "You jest listen to all of 'em and say you gotter have time to make up your mind. Then you can take your pick. Shucks, don't tell me you won't get it! You'd 'a' been married long ago if your ma'd had the sense of a goose. She's kept you tied right to her apron string and never let anybody name courtin' that she wasn't right there to stop the whole thing."

Mary-Bet junior was a handfull even without the red frock. Her godmother was none too fond of her—they were too nearly of the same piece. The most eligible of the widowers had shown symptoms of wavering whenever he found himself in Mary-Bet junior's vicinage—he was under thirty,

If Louiza had the bad taste to prefer one of the others, Miss Mary-Bet reflected, the wandering and wavering might be turned to account. Henry May could hardly be called a real widower—he had but married his sweetheart on her deathbed for the privilege of soothing her last fevered hours. That was five years back, so he had been wonderfully constant. It was only this last year that he had been seen anywhere but at church.

Sally's blue eyes were still those of a child—at least to the casual glance. Looking to their depths, there was something more. Sally had light, small feet and moved like thistledown in summer airs. When the playing began she was the star. She had not shone in the candy pulling; it was hard work, and, besides, she hated her pulling partner, Sandy Roberts. It made her almost sick to touch hands with him in the folding of their candy skein. After the first time she had let go the candy, thereby giving Sandy a fall or so. He meant to get even with her in the playing by choosing her out of the very first ring and kissing her not once, but many times.

Possibly Sally suspected as much. Certainly she fought shy of any ring where he stood up. Since he was a fine singer and a ready leader, that cut her out of many things, but she did not very much mind. Silas Venn, the oldest and staidest of the widowers, somehow took her under his protection and saw to it that she was not lonesome. Miss Mary-Bet chuckled to see it.

"Thinks he's same as in the family and bein' good to little Sis," she said to herself, adding after a breath, "but, unless I miss my guess, he's goin' to get the sack. Louiza looks like she plum' wropped up in John Trotter; he's been tellin' her all about the circus cause he's went to ever since the call come to pull candy."

Evidently John was much flattered. He talked on and on through "Swing Old Lisa," through "Mister Bluster," through "Oats, Pens, Beans and Barley" and to the beginnings of "Snap."

"Snap" forbids conversation, albeit it is destitute of singing. Louiza was a beautiful runner, a swift and sure catcher. What need to add that she was ruthlessly snapped on to the floor almost as soon as ever she sat down?

Sandy Roberts, in especial, got her out whenever he could, and since he was the life of the game that was very often. But when, in the course of play, she became part of the stump, he thought it would be great sport to get himself irregularly the pursuer of Sally. He caught her, of course, although she made him pant for it, and would not let her go until he had given her a resounding smack. The next minute he measured his length on the rag carpet. Silas Venn's fist had sent him there, and Silas himself stood over him with eyes that said plainly, "Come outside and settle it."

Then something happened; something to talk about for at least a generation. Louiza, the meek and mild, the gentlest creature living, flew at Silas in a rage, shook him hard and whirled him aside, then stooped over the prostrate Sandy, half sobbing: "If—if he hurt you, I'll kill him! Get up, Sandy, darlin'. I don't care who knows now."

Sandy rose to his feet, to the occasion. "There's a mix got to be straightened up, folks," he said, catching tight hold of Louiza's hand. "We're goin' to marry next week, if we have to run away. I've been waitin' and waitin' till she said I might tell the old folks. They don't like me, but they'll have to lump me."

"Sandy, I beg your pardon! Shake! I thought you were after somebody else," Silas Venn said joyously, edging to Sally's side. "I'm goin' to speak out, too," she said. "If Sally won't have me I'll stay a lone widower till the end of my days. How is it, little gal?"

"Humph! Look at her face. She's been lovin' you since she saw you cry so at your wife's buryin'!" Mary-Bet junior, the irrepressible, broke in. "And I ain't ashamed to say I've loved Henry just as long. He—he's just now found it out. But it's all comin' right!"

"Except for me," John Trotter interrupted, crestfallen.

John was thirty-seven, if he did admit to only thirty-three. He had, moreover, a flock of girl children. That was why Louiza had been set down so much his special benefaction. He looked speculatively at Miss Mary-Bet. After all, she didn't show the five years between them.

"I wonder if you'd look at a fellow my size and shape," he murmured under breath.

Miss Mary-Bet shook her head at him, but said in his own key: "It must be marryin' is catchin', same as measles. Come, and let's talk it over some other time."

Size and Speed of Waves.
Many different answers have been given to the question: "How high are the great ocean waves?"
One of the government scientists at Washington has lately made some personal observations on the subject. He described waves encountered in the north Atlantic that had a height of at least 45 feet.

Driven before a heavy wind, waves may advance at the rate of from thirty-five to forty miles an hour, and such undulations of the ocean may travel more than 500 miles from the point where the wind created them, without being accompanied by any disturbance in the atmosphere.

"Dement's Best" flour is guaranteed to make 300 pounds of bread to the barrel. 40ft

Danish English.
The following amusing advertisement, says the London Tribune, is copied verbatim from a local Danish paper: "The hotels charmingly situated, surrounded of a nice garden and good cuisine, the kindly accommodation with moderate charge and good conveyances with easy occasion for salmon and trout fishing, the ascending of the surrounding mountains has done this place well known and praised of all travelers. N. B.—The landlord is spoken English very good."

If It's A Reputation
you are after, White's Cream Vermifuge has a world wide reputation as the best of all worm destroyers, and for its tonic influence on weak and unthrifty children. It improves their digestion and assimilation of their food, strengthens their nervous system and restores them to health and vigor natural to a child. If you want a healthy, happy child get a bottle of White's Cream Vermifuge. Sold by Huntley Bros. Drug Co.

The Greek Year.
Until B. C. 432 the Greeks began the year at the winter solstice, after that at the summer.

Paper Shoes.
Paper shoes, which are said to wear as well as those of leather and to resist equally well the entrance of moisture, were known in China in the days of Marco Polo.

Adorned With Sculptures.
A suit of apartments was advertised at a fashionable watering place as having among its attractions "a splendid view over a fine garden adorned with numerous sculptures." It was found on applying at the address that the garden adorned with sculptures was a cemetery.

Calcutta Street Waterers.
A street waterer in Calcutta who sprinkles the streets from a water skin carried on his shoulders is paid 4 cents a day.

Origin of an Old Saw.
"Do at Rome as Romans do" is credited to no less an authority than St. Augustine, who advised a convert doubtful about the propriety of some customs observed at Rome to do as other people did.

Xantippe.
Xantippe, the reputed wife of Socrates, if her contemporaries are to be believed, was as ugly as her famous husband.

Water Superstitions.
Superstitions having to do with water are difficult to eradicate. What possible connection can the rise or fall of water have with the duration of human life? Yet when Dickens tells of the death of the child in "David Copperfield"—"it being low water, he went out with the tide"—then the old superstition finds its pathetic revival.

Bank Note Paper.
Bank note paper is made of the best quality of linen rags, the linen being purchased in bolts and cut up by machinery for the purpose of making pulp.

The Gokstad Ship.
The second oldest sailing craft in the world is the so called Gokstad ship, a viking craft which was discovered in a sepulchral mound on the shores of Christiania and is now exhibited in a wonderfully perfect state of preservation in Christiania. It is a craft of the ninth century A. D.

Homeric Feasts.
Only two courses were served at the most elaborate Homeric feasts.

The Sunflower.
The sunflower takes its name from its shape and general resemblance to the sun. It is not a true heliophile. It does not turn toward the sun in spite of the poetic assertion of Moore.

Absinth.
It may be a fact not generally known that absinth is three times more toxic than cognac of the same alcoholic strength.

Mother-of-Pearl.
Mother-of-pearl is the hard, silvery, brilliant substance which forms the internal layers of several kinds of shells. The interior of our common oyster shells is of this nature, but the mother-of-pearl used in the arts is much more variegated with a play of colors. The large shells of the Indian seas alone have this pearly substance of sufficient thickness to be of use.

NO REDUCTION WAS MADE ON ROLL

(Continued from page 1.)

for \$305,840, which makes an assessment of \$14,565 per mile, this on a levy of 17 mills would make the company pay \$247.61 per mile or \$5,075.07 on the 21 miles.

Douglas county gets \$130 per mile; Jackson county gets \$98 per mile; Lane county gets \$100 per mile; Linn county gets \$136 per mile; Marion county gets \$100.27 per mile; Multnomah county gets \$126.00 per mile; Clackamas county gets \$247.61 per mile. So you see Clackamas county gets from \$111.61 to \$149.61 per mile more than any of the other counties in the state.

In 1902 the year before I came into the assessor's office, the O. & C. R. R. was assessed for a total of \$86,302. This year the same property is assessed for \$305,840, or \$219,538 more than it was when I was elected assessor of this County, which I think is a good raise and a fair assessment of their property.

Respectfully,
JAMES F. NELSON.

Cross-Continent Auto Record.
The recent automobile trip made by L. L. Whitman from San Francisco to New York over a 4200-mile route, was completed in fifteen days, twelve hours and two minutes at an expense to the company of \$8000. During the journey relays of men kept pace with the car by rail, but they were not needed; also a complete outfit for repair was sent along by rail from point to point and duplicates of every part. But no part of that gear was required as it was out of reach when the smash-up occurred at Conneaut, on the Ohio border. The gasoline used averaged one gallon to fifteen miles. Whitman received \$2500 for his services.

CASTORIA.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

FARMERS' TELEPHONE LINES.
Representatives of the Pacific States Telephone & Telegraph company have started a house to house canvass among the farmers of this county, offering an extremely low rental rate for instruments to be used in connection with the central offices of the company throughout the county.

For 8-1-3 cents a month the subscriber is given free switching with all other subscribers connecting with his central exchange. Under this rate it would appear that no rural resident need be without a telephone and its attendant advantages, especially as every assurance is given of prompt and efficient service.

Mr. G. J. Hall is in charge of the canvass in this county and he states that he may be seen at the central office of the company in Oregon City, Oregon, or will visit any community or organization of farmers interested in telephone matters. 33eow.

PROPOSALS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SEWER DISTRICT NO. 5.
Sealed proposals for furnishing all labor and materials for laying of sewers in Sewer District No. 5, Oregon City, Oregon, according to the plans and specifications therefor now on file in the office of the Recorder of Oregon City, will be received by the Committee on Streets and Public Property of the Council of Oregon City until 4 o'clock p.m., of Saturday, September 15th, 1906.

All necessary tools used in the laying of said sewer shall be furnished by the contractor.

Specifications containing further information will be furnished upon application to the Recorder of Oregon City.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a certified check equal to five percent of the sum of the total estimate of the work, which sum will be subject to forfeiture in case of failure of the successful bidder to furnish bonds and enter into a written contract for said work, if called upon so to do, within ten days from and after the acceptance of said bid.

Proposals must be made upon blanks furnished by the City Engineer.

The right to reject any and all bids and to accept any bid considered most favorable to Oregon City is hereby reserved.

All proposals must be addressed to the Committee on Streets and Public Property of the Council of Oregon City, in care of the Recorder.

By order of the Council of Oregon City, Oregon, September 6, 1906.

E. P. RANDS,
H. E. STRAIGHT,
D. C. WILLIAMS,
Committee on Streets and Public Property.

Liquor License.
Notice is hereby given that we will apply at the next regular meeting of the Oregon City council for a renewal of our saloon license at our present place of business, Main and Eighth streets.

ASTMANN & KNIGHTLY.

FIFTY CENTS

In some conditions the gain from the use of Scott's Emulsion is very rapid. For this reason we put up a fifty-cent size, which is enough for an ordinary cough or cold or useful as a trial for babies and children. In other conditions the gain is slower—health cannot be built up in a day. In such cases Scott's Emulsion must be taken as nourishment; a food rather than a medicine. It's a food for tired and weak digestions.

Send for free sample
Scott & Bowne, 409-415 Pearl St.
Chemists
New York
50c. and \$1.00. All druggists

Colonist's tickets will be sold from the East to points on the Oregon lines of the Southern Pacific Co. via Portland, commencing February 15 and continuing daily to and including April 7 and from September 15 until October 31. The rates from some of the principal points are: Chicago, \$25; Bloomington, Ill., \$31.80; St. Louis, \$30; Omaha, \$25; Kansas City, \$25; Council Bluffs, \$25; St. Joseph, \$25; Sioux City, \$25; Denver, \$25; corresponding rates will be made from other points and will appear at all points on Oregon lines.

Persons desiring to pay for tickets to bring anyone from the East or middle West to Oregon may deposit the amount required with the local agent of the S. P. The company will do the rest. For further information inquire at any Southern Pacific ticket office.

RATES.
Newport, Yaquina Bay, Breitenbush Hot Springs From All S. P. and C. & E. Points.

On and after June 1, 1906, the Southern Pacific in connection with the Corvallis & Eastern railroad will have on sale round trip tickets from points on their lines to Newport, Yaquina and Detroit at very low rates, good for return until October 10, 1906.

Three day tickets to Newport and Yaquina, good going Saturdays and returning Mondays, are also on sale from all East Side points, Portland to Eugene, inclusive, and from all West Side points, enabling people to visit their families and spend Sunday at the seaside.

Season tickets from all East Side and from all West Side points, are also on sale to Detroit at very low rates with stop-over privileges at Mill City or any point east, enabling tourists to visit the Santiam and Breitenbush Hot Springs in the Cascade mountains, which can be reached in one day.

Season tickets will be good for return from all points until October 10. Three-day tickets will be good going Saturdays and returning Mondays only. Tickets from Portland and vicinity will be good for return via the East or West side at option of passenger. Tickets from Eugene and vicinity will be good going via the Lebanon-Springfield branch if desired.

Baggage on Newport tickets checked through to Newport, on Yaquina tickets to Yaquina only. Sunday excursions to Newport on the C. & E. will begin June 10th or 17th and run every Sunday thereafter, leaving Albany at 7:30 a. m.; leave Corvallis 8 a. m.

S. P. trains connect with the C. & E. at Albany and Corvallis for Yaquina and Newport. Trains on the C. & E. for Detroit leave Albany at 7:30 a. m., enabling tourists to the Hot Springs to reach there the same day. Trains from and to Corvallis connect with all East Side trains on the S. P.

Full information as to rates, time table, etc., can be obtained on application to J. C. Mayo, Gen. Pass. Agt. C. & E. R. Albany; A. L. Craig, G. P. A. S. P. Co., Portland, or to any S. P. or C. & E. agent.

Rates from Oregon City to Newport \$6.00.
To Yaquina \$6.00.
Three day rate from Oregon City to Newport, \$3.00.

O. R. & N.

OREGON SHORT LINE AND UNION PACIFIC

THREE TRAINS TO THE EAST DAILY

Through Pullman standard and Tourist sleeping cars daily to Omaha, Chicago, Spokane; tourist sleeping cars daily to Kansas City; through Pullman tourist sleeping cars (personally conducted) weekly to Chicago, Kansas City, reclining chairs (seats free to the east daily.)

HOURS
Portland to Chicago 70
No Change of Cars. 70

Depart.	Time Schedules.	ARRIVE
Chicago-Portland Special 9:15 a. m.	Salt Lake, Denver, Ft. Worth, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago and East.	5:25 p. m.

Atlantic Express 8:15 p. m. via Huntington.	Salt Lake, Denver, Ft. Worth, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago and East.	8:00 a. m.
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St. Paul Fast Mail 6:15 p. m. via Spokane.	Walla Walla, Lewiston, Spokane, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, Milwaukee, Chicago and East.	7:15 a. m.
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Ocean and River Schedule
For San Francisco—Every five days at 5 p. m. For Astoria, way points and Portland, Oregon.
\$ 5 p. m. Saturday at 10 p. m. Daily service (water permitting) on Willamette and Yamhill rivers.
For detailed information of rates, the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Co., your nearest ticket agent, or General Passenger Agent, A. L. CRAIG.

Astoria & Columbia River Railroad CO.

Leaves.	UNION DEPOT	Arrives.
8:00 A.M. Daily.	For Maygers, Rainier, Clatskanie, Westport, Clifton, Astoria, Warrenton, Flavel, Hammond, Fort Stevens, Gearhart Park, Seaside, Astoria and Seashore, Express Daily, Astoria Express.	Daily. 11:10 A.M.
7:00 P.M.		9:40 P.M.

C. A. STEWART, Comm'l Agt., 525 Alder street, Phone Main 906.
J. C. MAYO, G. F. & P. A., Astoria, Or.

UPPER WILLAMETTE RIVER ROUTE.

SALEM, INDEPENDENCE, ALBANY, CORVALLIS AND WAY LANDINGS.

Leave Portland 6:45 a. m. daily (except Sunday) for Salem and way points.
Leave Portland 6:45 Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday for Independence, Albany and Corvallis.

Regular service, courteous treatment and prompt dispatch are our specialties.
OREGON CITY TRANSPORTATION CO.
Office and Dock:
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Phone Main 40.

COLUMBIA RIVER SCENERY.
Portland and The Dalles ROUTE

Regulator Line Steamers

"BAILEY GATZERT" "DALLES CITY" "REGULATOR" "METLAKO" "SADIE B."

Str. "Bailey Gatzert" leaves Portland 7 A. M. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; leaves The Dalles 7 A. M. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.
Str. "Regulator" leaves Portland 7 A. M. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; leaves The Dalles 7 A. M. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Steamers leaving Portland make daily connection at Yule with C. R. & N. train for Goldendale and Klckitkat Valley points.

C. R. & N. train leaves Goldendale on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:30 A. M., making connection with steamer "Regulator" for Portland and way points.

C. R. & N. train leaves Goldendale on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 8:30 A. M., connecting at Yule with steamer "Sadie B." for The Dalles, connecting there with O. R. & N. trains East and West.

Str. "Sadie B." leaves Cascade Locks daily (except Sunday) at 7 A. M. for The Dalles and way points; arrives at 11 A. M.; leaves The Dalles 2 P. M., arrives Cascade Locks 6 P. M.

Heals served on all steamers. Fine accommodations for teams and wagons.
Landing at Portland at Alder Street Dock.

MARCUS TALBOT, V. P. & G. M. Gen. Office, Portland, Oregon.

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