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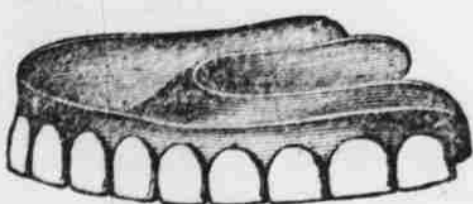
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HEAVEN'S LAST, BEST GIFT.

The anomalous position of women in our day finds curious illustration in the criminal record. The Walworth case, the Gillem case, the Smith case, the Goodrich case, the monstrous list of cases of undistinguished wife murdering, wife avenging Patricks, all point one moral. It is plain that the popular prejudice still concedes to the man some divine right of ownership and control over the woman, whether he be brother, lover, husband or son, whether he cherish or hate, honor or outrage. And because this belief belongs to patriarchal age and Eastern barbarism, it works infinite evil in our modern Western Civilization.

When brute force governed the world, men were, as a rule, the necessary protectors of women. In their turn, women were the helpless slaves of men. As society was then organized, some sort of marriage was open to every woman, for every man wanted a household of cheap servants. If he fought, on occasion, to protect his wives and concubines, as he fought to protect his camels and asses, they cancelled the debt in labor. They were the household millers, bakers, spinners, weavers, dyers, clothiers, chandlers, breeders; and always everywhere ignorant chattels to be scourged or parted with at the will of their master. Women were not consciously debased by this system because nobody dreamed of anything better.

In Europe, the patriarchal arrangement fell into early discredit. Greece and Rome, therefore, with their hosts of unmarried women, were perplexed with the consequent social problems that still baffle solution. Later, the Catholic Church offered its remedy of orders of celibate nuns. That failed, as was inevitable. Medieval Europe maintained the supremacy of the man over the woman as rigidly as primitive Asia had done, though by different means. The loftiest idealist of the seventeenth century saw no higher doctrine than "He for God only, She for God in him." With advancing intelligence and morality the position of women has necessarily improved. She is, in fact, to-day, a responsible, capable and vigorous member of society perfectly able to take care of herself. But in popular theory, and to a certain extent in law, she still remains a weak, wavering shadow of man, his helpless care and absolute property.

It was this most monstrous tradition which made of Walworth the husband a brutal domestic tyrant, a course domestic bully. Should not a man do what he would with his own? It was this sentimental nonsense that made of Walworth the son a calculating parricide. Should not a son "protect" his mother? That the costly legal machinery of a State stood ready to "protect" her as threatnings and pistols could not, was a fact to common place to weigh with him. Her honor being insulted, chivalry demanded that he should avenge it. Smith, who killed a man and tried to kill a woman, because that man paid court to that woman, justified himself a hundred times over with the same plea—"She belongs to me." And he died, to his own thinking, in the full odor of sanctity, and in the sincere belief that he had committed no crime. Gillem coolly stabbed his wife because she refused to live with him on account of his debauchery, faithlessness, and violence. He thought he exercised the plainest right of a husband, and said to the policeman, "You'd have done the same if your wife had left you." And that policeman admitted that he saw the murderer lying in wait, knew his mad rages, and feared some violence, but "did not like to interfere between man and wife." Goodrich happened to be the victim instead of the victor, under his system, which was evidently the same, namely, that

the woman is the absolute property of the man and the creature of his will. To his thinking, she had no rights in the case.

These are not pleasant pictures; but it is only in their concrete form that the bad tendencies of society arrest the general mind. The one hope of diminishing crime is reform those false modes of thought which generate crime. No one of these is more dangerous than the notion of man's ownership of woman, and of woman's accountability to man. It brutalizes the lower classes from end to end. Its consequences touch unborn children and keep the ranks of rogues and paupers full. It makes the men of the upper classes tyrannous and selfish; the women, silly, exacting, frivolous and weak. It leads to crimes of sensuality and violence, and sets the code of honor above the law of the land.

Half the social questions that vex our souls will be answered when the world concedes that a woman is a normal, responsible individual human being, as a man is normal, responsible, individual; that she must be the protector of her own honor, the judge of her own duty, the keeper of her own conscience, answerable to the law and to Heaven. There will be a lofty observance of marriage, a noble race of children, only when the man and woman are intelligent equals and friends. And in that day the world will be ashamed to remember through how many centuries it ranged men into a mock order of devotees and women into a sentimental priesthood.—Becher.

GRANT, BUTLER, AND THE SALARY-GRAB.

We have been informed aforesime, by as good Republicans as there are in the House of Representatives, that while the Salary bill was pending, Gen. Grant could scarcely be induced to talk on any other subject. Whatever matter of state might be brought up in the conversation, he would dismiss it impatiently, if not adroitly, and return to the only legislation in which he evinced any interest, viz: the increase of salaries. We also know that the attendants at the White House were the most assiduous and efficient lobbyists in favor of the grab. Recent developments show that Gen. Grant not only encouraged the passage of the bill, but that he was the originator, the prompter, and the "whip," as well as the signer of the bill.

Gen. Grant's responsibility for the salary-grab has now turned up as an element in Gen. Butler's campaign for the Massachusetts Governorship. The Charlestown (Mass.) Chronicle, Gen. Butler's organ, plainly intimates that Gen. Grant, and not Gen. Butler, is entitled to be "cussed" for the measure. Gen. Butler himself virtually takes this ground for making the increase of the President's salary the most notable feature of his recent defense. A correspondent to the New York Evening Post relates that Gen. Butler announced, just prior to his Framingham speech, that he intended to tell the history of the grab. The announcement was conveyed to Washington, and the semi-official endorsement of Butler's candidacy, along with the important assistance of the Federal officers in Massachusetts, was the result. The promised revelation was not made. It is now said that Gen. Butler holds his explanation in abeyance, as a sort of "rod in pickle," over the President's head, apropos of the third term. The fact appears to be that Gen. Grant started the movement to increase his own salary to \$50,000 a year; it was found that this could not be done without throwing a sop to Congress; the general increase of salaries, with the retroactive feature to secure the co-operation of retiring Congressmen, was adopted as a means to carry out the programme. and Gen.

Butler undertook to engineer the measure through the House, just as he had undertaken Mr. Boutwell's election to the Senate, as a consideration for support in his campaign for the Massachusetts Governorship.

There are many other circumstances that tend to confirm this showing. Gen. Grant accepted the Presidency on purely business grounds. In the historical review between Gen. Raulins, representing Grant, and Mr. Forney, representing the Republican party, the substance of Grant's dickering was, that he could not afford to take the Presidency; that is to give up a life position at a good salary for a four-years' engagement at a small advance. His conditions were two terms in office and an increase of pay. It is to be presumed that these conditions were agreed to, since Gen. Grant accepted the nomination. Grant took a mercantile view of the situation from the very first. He had a "corner" on the Presidency. If the Republicans would not accept his terms the Democrats would. He was at that time incumbered with no political principles, and could be the candidate of one party as well as the other. He was persuaded that he was more necessary to the Republican party than the Republican was to him,—and that was perhaps true. The situation was an excellent one for grabs, and there was never a more inveterate grabber. Gen. Grant has played the grab-game ever since he has been in office. The appointment of his relatives and relatives' partners has been the main feature of it. The acceptance of gifts from men seeking office has been another. He has grown rapidly rich. He is down for no charities. He gives away no money. He makes the State provide for his poor relatives. He entertains less than his predecessors. He dead-ends on all the railroads. The Congressional allowance for the White House expenses are stated to be more than double what they were in Lincoln's time. We have recapitulated these familiar circumstances for the purpose of showing, as it seems to us they do show, that Gen. Grant's purpose is to make as much money out of the President's office as possible. In this view of the case, his personal responsibility for the salary-grab may be readily comprehended. It was a chance to clear \$100,000.

This latest, and apparently most reasonable, history of the salary-grab is more humiliating to our national pride, if possible, than any other that could be offered. But it is also instructive. It proves that the salary-grab was a party measure, and that it was consummated under the whip of the Administration. It must be ranked, then, among the acts of the Republican party along with Credit Mobilier, the Snelling swindle, the land-steals, the Indian frauds, and the other corruption which it has fostered. The Democrats were only too glad to join in for a share of the plunder. As to Gen. Grant himself this new version is not likely to affect his reputation one way or the other. The man who could see nothing bad in Credit Mobilier, and could give a letter of recommendation to Tom Murphy, and another to a retiring Vice-President who had been drawing \$1,000 every quarter from a Government contractor, may certainly sign a bill to take \$2,000,000 annually out of the people's pockets in order that he may himself fob \$100,000 by the operation, without doing the least violence to his former public repute.—Tribune.

Mr. Fredrick Lockyer of London wrote the pithy verse:

They eat and drink, and scheme and And go to church on Sunday; [plod, And many are afraid of God, And more of Mrs. Grundy.

HOW THEY FEEL.

To show how the people regard the present administration, and how they express their contempt for the further pretensions of the present old parties, we give below some of the mottoes that floated in the breeze at a county convention in Illinois recently.

All the precinct organizations brought in their banners, with appropriate

MOTTOES

inscribed thereon, many of which are so pregnant of meaning that I note the following:

Corn Must Go Up. Monopolies Must Come Down.

No More Credit Mobilier Swindles, nor Congressional Grabs.

If Any Political Party Stands Between Us and Our Rights, Let It Die.

We Will Vote for No More Robbers. (Point Pleasant Farmers' and Mechanics' Club:) Equal Justice to All.

Corporations Must Obey the Laws, as Well as Individuals.

In God We Trust! Death to Monopolies.

A Fair Remuneration Paid for Honest Toil.

Free-Trade and Farmers' Rights.

Farmers to the Front! Politicians, Take Back-Seats.

No More Republicans; No More Democrats. We Want, and Must Have, Honest Men to Fill Public Positions.

Eternal Vigilance Is the Safeguard of Liberty.

Let All the Farmers Be United, for in Unity There is Strength.

(Sandy Farmers' and Mechanics' Club:) Survive or Perish, We Will Support the Farmers' Movement.

Brothers, Let Us Organize and Educate, for Knowledge Is Power.

We Will Obey the Laws, and Monopolies Must Do the Same.

We Vote for No Man Who Can Be Bought By Grab or Steal.

If Our Present Congressman Can't Serve the People for \$5,000 a Year, Ask Them to Resign, and We Will Send Men Who Will.

(Bluff Dale:) Equal and Exact Justice to All.

(Maple Grove:) Laws Based Upon Justice.

The Farmer Feeds the World.

We are the Laborers

Millions of Dollars Expended in the Erection of a State-House to Enact Laws in to Swindle the People.

Christians, Vote as You Pray, for Honest Rulers.

Railroads Make a Fair Per Cent on \$45,000 per mile. When Assessed for Taxation, They Are Valued at \$3,000.

President, \$50,000 a year; Congressmen, \$7,500. Farmers, 15 cents a Week.

THE OHIO BOURBONS.

The straightout Democrats of Ohio have Consummated their traditional stupidity by the nomination of a State ticket, which will never be heard of again after the 14th of October next. It is safe to say that it will be buried out of sight by a majority so large that the candidates will never realize they ran for any offices. It is equally safe to say that no respectable person will regret that fact. From the fact that the party itself is doomed to certain defeat, but little interest attaches to the details of the Convention, further than they emphasize its folly. Its nominations are of no consequence, as they are merely pins set up to be bowled over, with the certain knowledge that the operation will prove an auxiliary to Republican success. The platform, however, possesses some interest as a matter of curiosity, because it has not an original Democratic plank in its construction. It sets out frankly with this admission: "The

Democratic party seeks to revive no dead issues." As all the Democratic issues are dead and perished so long ago that a resurrection of them would entail an "ancient and fish-like smell" no one could endure, we are not surprised that they decline the disagreeable job. Having no issues of their own, they have fished one or two out of the Republican issues, several from the various resolutions of the Farmers' Granges, and nearly all the issues which the party of the people made against the party in power at the recent Columbus Convention. Leaving out the protests against legislation for class interests, discriminations against labor, and the squandering of public lands (which were borrowed from the farmers platforms), and the denunciations of Credit Mobilier swindlings, salary-grabbings, and other forms of public corruption (which were borrowed from the Liberal party platforms, notwithstanding the fact that the Democratic party is as deep in the mire as the Republican), there is nothing left in this patchwork pronouncement but the single fact that the Democratic party seeks to revive no dead issue. It is the last pitiable effort of a disorganized mob to go into a fight against a powerful and well disciplined enemy, without leaders, without one of its old war-cries which used to inspire and rally the masses under its standard. The platform form is a good one, but it is not a Democratic platform. It does not emphasize a single issue upon which the party has heretofore achieved a victory. To the remnant of its following it will be as unintelligible as the jargon at the Tower of Babel. Admitting, for the sake of argument, that it is a Democratic platform, because it has emanated from a Democratic Convention, of what use is it? What security can this moribund faction give to induce people to vote for it.—Tribune.

AS TRANGE CASE.

In a late report from the State Lunatic Asylum of Utica, New York, the following very remarkable case was stated.

A woman patient of thirty year of age had been using morphia, by hypodermic, for two years. Although warned against the effect, she still persisted in its use, taking two hypodermic injections each day, until her body was completely covered with scars wherever her own hand could reach. She became insane in consequence and was sent to the Asylum. While there needles began coming to the surface of her body and were extracted, sometimes as many as five needles a day, and one day twelve needles were pulled out of her flesh. She lived some months, and two hundred and eighty-nine needles were extracted from her flesh when she died, and after death 11 more were taken out, making three hundred needles in all, two hundred and forty-six of which were whole and fifty-four were broken. How or when these needles got into the flesh nobody knows, but as the stomach was perfectly healthy the theory is that they were introduced through the skin while she was under the influence of morphia hypodermically administered.

Solomon's Proverbs have, I think omitted to say that, as the sore palate findeth grit, so an unsteady conscience heareth innuendoes.—George Eliot.

The cottage of William Penn, which is now in a dilapidated condition in the midst of the great warehouses of Philadelphia, is used for a beer saloon.

A Phrenologist told a man that he had combativeness largely developed. "No," said the other, "I have not, and if you say that again I'll knock you down."

What good resolutions we sometimes make immediately after having acted upon wrong ones.—Mrs. Ellis.