

THE COLUMBIAN.

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NO. 1.

MRS. J'S FROM TOWN.

Oh, Jones will now in freedom stray,
From sundown unto dawn,
And with the boys at poker play
Till his last dollar is gone—
Mrs. J. is out of town.

For three good months in fancy free,
He'll go it with the boys,
No longer troubled with latch key,
Or with the dread of noise,
Mrs. J. is out of town.

He'll wander home for night galore,
As full as any tick,
And recklessly in corners four
His victrolas he'll kick,
Mrs. J. is out of town.

He'll have his cocktails served in bed,
In bed he'll smoke also,
For time or tide won't care a red,
But say, "Old boy, you know,"
Mrs. J. is out of town.

And so the summer time will pass
And Jones will have his fling;
But there is, alas to say, alas!
An end to ever, thing,
Mrs. J. comes back to town.

An' Jones is once more meek and mild,
As husbands ought to be,
For in the summer only wild
Is this old boy you see,
When Mrs. J. is from town.

And little knows his better half
Of half her husband's sin,
Or how he gives her quite a laugh,
And flings about the tin,
When she is out of town.

Now, gay grass widows by the sea
And near the mountain cleft,
Remember that if you are free,
Your hubby don't get left,
When you are out of town.

The War President's Wife.

Mary Lincoln was the daughter of Hon. Robert Todd, of Lexington, Ky., and married the illustrious martyr President November 4th, 1842, in Springfield, Ill. She was one of four sisters, and was a woman of unusual talents, accomplishments and ambition. When as Miss Mary Todd she became known in the capital city of Illinois, she attracted attention as one of the leading belles, and also acquired not a little notoriety through her satirical articles written for the local press. One of these articles, holding up General James Shields to ridicule, almost led to a duel between Shields and Lincoln. The offensive publication was made under a fictitious signature, and when Shields demanded the name of the author the editor gave that of Lincoln, who was thereupon challenged by Shields. The parties went to Missouri to fight with broadswords, but after considerable negotiation the seconds and friends succeeded in settling the difficulty and preventing the hostile meeting. This incident occurred a few months before the marriage of Mr. Lincoln and Miss Todd.

The death of the widow of the lamented President opens to public attention the history of Lincoln's singular and romantic love affairs. It appears that his first strong attachment was for a Miss Ann Rutledge, who was one of the famous South Carolina Rutledge family. She had a lover named McNeil, who, however, passed under the name of McNamar. He deserted her, leaving the State and never redeeming his promise to return and marry her. Under this disappointment she pined and died of grief. It is uncertain what place young Lincoln filled in her feelings, but he was inseparable upon her death. For several weeks he was almost insane, and was taken by his friends to a secluded retreat, where he could receive the kindest care and attention and at the same time be screened from observation. A Miss Mary Owens is mentioned as Lincoln's next flame, but neither she nor any other woman appears ever to have obtained such a mastery of his feelings as did Miss Rutledge.

Miss Todd is described as a great woman of great personal attractions, witty, brilliant, of high and imperious temper, and cherishing much personal and family pride. One of her suitors was Stephen A. Douglas, and being once asked which of the two, Lincoln or Douglas, she intended to have, it is said she replied: "The one who has the best chance of becoming President." According to another story, she said she refused Douglas on account of this bad habit. It is said that her conquest of Lincoln was a case of "love at first sight," but if so, his feelings subsequently underwent singular alternations, for before the long delayed marriage took place we find him attached to Miss Matilda Edwards, a sister of Hon. Ninian W. Edwards, of Springfield, who had married one of Miss Todd's sisters, and with whom she resided in Springfield. The match between Lincoln and Miss Todd was desired by the Edwardses, while one with Miss Edwards was opposed by them. Lincoln, like an honorable man, informed Miss Todd of his changed feelings, and was by her released from his engagement. In this situation his mind was prey to doubts and troubles, and we again find him in such a condition that he was removed by his friends. He was sent to stay with kind friends in Kentucky, and at this period his alienation was so great, according to Ward H. Lamson, author of the well-known "Life of the President," that his self-destruction was feared. Knives, razors, etc., were removed from his reach, and every precaution adopted to see he wrought himself no harm. He contributed some verses to the Sangamon Journal, entitled "Suicide," which were afterward well remembered. A stay of six months or so in the Kentucky retreat restored Lincoln to his normal state of mind, and he returned to his home.

Soon after, according to the Edwardses, he began to have secret meetings at the house of a friend with Miss Todd, and the marriage finally occurred very suddenly—upon an announcement of only a

few hours. According to another version, and the one Mr. Lamson seems to prefer, the match was entirely made by the Edwardses, who dragged Lincoln into it. One of his friends says he even looked like a man going to an execution rather than a wedding. But it is painful and unnecessary to dwell upon these stories.

Mrs. Lincoln seems during the earlier years of her married life to have excited some of those feelings of hostility which afterward attached to her as the wife of a President, for when Lincoln became a candidate for Congress soon after his marriage, he was charged with being an "aristocrat" and with having deserted his old friends, the people, by marrying a proud and ambitious woman. But severity in many respects, such a wife as Lincoln needed to help him forward in his career. She possessed the social talents in which he so conspicuously deficient, and no doubt contributed more than is generally believed to his success.

A single instance of her acuteness of judgment may be mentioned. During Lincoln's absence from Springfield he was made one of the candidates of his party for member of the Legislature. At the same time he intended to come before the Legislature as a candidate for United States Senator. Knowing this, Mrs. Lincoln had his name stricken out of the published list of candidates in the newspapers, but when Lincoln came home he suffered himself to be persuaded to have it reinserted, strongly against his wife's judgment. His party obtained a majority in the legislature, and when the contest came to be made for senator, Lincoln found his position as a member so embarrassing that he was forced to resign—a tardy acknowledgment of his wife's superior foresight. As already said, Mrs. Lincoln was no enemy while mistress of the White House. It is probable, however, that this was due to the trying character of the times. In a season of peace there is reason to believe she would have shone as a President's wife, and her social talents would not then have subjected her to the reproach of too great gaiety or severity. Some of her acts since Lincoln's death have also excited unfriendly comment, but these can be left to a charitable oblivion. It is only a few months since Congress voted her an increase of the pension which was settled upon her soon after her husband's death.

Southern Hospitality.

Turning off from the corduroy road, I took a foot-path, and was soon as near the cabin as a high rail fence would allow me to approach on horseback. The most of my readers in the older sections of the country will suppose that I had now only to dismount, hitch my horse, climb the fence, rap at the door, and so gain admittance to my resting place for the night. Far otherwise. Only the most unskilled and inexperienced in the brush would undertake so rash an experiment. Sitting upon my horse, I called out in a loud voice, "Hello, there!" That call was for the same purpose that the city pastor mounts the stone steps and rings the bell at the door of his parishioners. It was rather more effective. A large pack of hounds and various other kinds of dogs responded with a barking chorus; a group of black pickanninies rushed from the kitchen, followed to the door by their sable mothers, with arms akimbo and hands fresh from mixing the pone or corn dodger for the family supper; all with distended eyes and snarling, staring at the stranger with excited and pleased curiosity. At almost the same instant the mistress of the incipient plantation reached the door of her cabin, stockingless and shoeless, with a dress of woolsey woven in her own loom by her own hands, and cut and made by her own skill, with face not less pleased and excited than the others, and her hand greeting of:

"How do, stranger—how d'ys, sir? 'Light, sir' (alight)—'light, sir'!" Remaining upon my horse, I replied: "I am a stranger in these parts, madam. I have ridden about fifty miles this morning, and am exceedingly tired. Can I get to stay with you to-night, madam?"

"Oh, yes," she replied, "if you can put up with our rough fare. We never turn anybody away." I dismounted. The dogs, who would otherwise have resisted my approach to the door by a combined attack, obeyed their instruction not to harm me, and granted me a safe entrance as a recognized friend. Such was the universal training of the dogs, and such the uniform method of approaching and gaining admittance to the houses of people in the brush.

How SILVER ALWAYS DRIVES GOLD OUT.—The shipments of gold for Italian account, which still continue in a small way in spite of an adverse rate of exchange, remind one of what happened when we were preparing to resume specie payments, and also when the balance of trade was greatly in the favor of England at these times managed to force France and Germany to send us the gold we needed. Now she forces us to send what Italy needs. But it is our own fault that we have been put in this position. If we had not placed an embargo upon silver by a law which retains it in this country for coinage, we should have settled the balance easily by selling out that metal and retaining the gold.—[Boston Advertiser.]

If we could only get along without paying our debts, what a happy world this would be. It is a great pleasure to buy what you want and have it charged, but it is a fearful thing to live, as Byron says.

Bread: g the climax of all human ills.
The inflammation of our weekly bills.

Modern Turkish Barbarities.

No one can read the "Arabian Nights" without being charmed with its romances. They have ever had a great fascination, especially for the young. There is a mystery and spell of enchantment about them. The mouth waters at the luxurious description of fountains in cool courts, soft music and purses of gold thrown recklessly about like seeds in a garden. And then are we not thrilled by the decided manner in which the Padishah signals for heads to be cut off, or the Ferashes called in to do their little business of bastinado, to say nothing of the numberless sacks with their victims floating about in the blue waters of the Bosphorus. We, living on the banks of the Thames, in the center of civilization, within the sound of Big Ben of Westminster, are little inclined to credit the stories of the fatal effects of a cup of coffee, the bastinado, slavery and physical torture. These things are, however, all in full swing.

The ordinary tourist in the East knows next to nothing of its customs. It is only the resident of many years who can speak with confidence of something more than the mere surface of Oriental life. The truth is that much goes on within the walls of a harem or palace which is terribly secret and mysterious. Yes, mystery and secrecy. These two words are the pivots upon which everything is worked; and the capital, Constantinople, to its shame, knows as much as any other city in the East about such matters. Barring decapitation, most of the enormities are now committed just as they were a hundred years ago. When Sultan Abdul Medjid, brother of Abdul Aziz, came to the throne, the amiable monster (two by the way, drank six bottles of champagne daily, the last bottle being drunk) had his five brothers bow-strung before his eyes.

It was dangerous to have so many male heirs to the succession; they might become inconvenient members of the dynasty, and so it was better to crush at once all chances of a conspiracy against the throne. Only quite lately the succession law was repealed, which required the destruction of every male child of the Sultan's sisters and daughters. What a sad and touching story was that of the "two little toms" with two little red fezzees described by Thackeray in visiting the mausoleum; these were the toms of Abdul Medjid's nephews, the children of his sister, who were slain with the bowstring. Sultan Mahmud strangled one, but having sympathy for the agony of the poor mother, his daughter, the royal heart relented. He then promised that in the event of her having another male child, it should be allowed to live. Mahmud died, and Abdul Medjid succeeded. His sister bore another son, and depending on her royal brother's affection for her, hoped that this infant would be spared. What happened? He tore the infant son from its mother's bosom and killed it. The poor mother's heart broke, and on her death bed she sent for her heartless juror and assassin. She now lies by the "two little fezzees." This story brings us to the Suleimanie mausoleum. There you can see the tombs of the seventeen brothers whom Sultan Mahomet III strangled in a fit of jealousy; but this little event certainly took place some time ago and in barbarous times. Ah, barbarous times! The Oriental code of punishment is a trifle more civilized than of yore. They do not now thrust people into ovens filled with spikes and knives, and heat them gradually, nor do they hang their mothers up by the heels to make them confess where the money is concealed.—[London Society.]

Incident of the Revolution.

There is a little incident connected with the history of the revolution, which occurred in the year 1778, at Valley Forge, to which incident has been as much publicity given as it justly merits. We are all familiar with the terrible sufferings endured by our army at Valley Forge during that severe winter, one of the coldest experienced for many years. It was through the most intense suffering this winter was passed by that band of patriots who risked all that we might be free. Brave heroes of liberty! The recollection of their deeds will echo through every hill and valley over our land until time shall end in eternity. Their sufferings were great, and endured with patience. Yet there was no prospect of things growing better, but constantly worse. There was no hope for the future, and each to-morrow was ushered in with greater distress. The hopes of the bravest began to falter, the feet of the strongest to grow weaker. Overcome with sickness and fatigue, the bravest saw that their only refuge was in death, and many in despair cried out, "Save us, Lord, or we perish."

Over rock and hillside, down through hill valley and ravine the feeble sound was echoed. On a day when the sun shone brightly and the clear blue background was more beautiful than usual, there appeared upon the horizon a bright speck like a cloud, which appeared to have come to dim the beauty of that clear winter sky. The sick dragged themselves to watch, while the keener observers noticed that the cloud moved, not away from that suffering band, but nearer, and shaped itself into a small caravan as onward it came—on! on! and over the snowy, frosty road. Presently they heard the creaking sound of wheels, when, lo! to their eager gaze appeared ten wagons filled with food and clothing, each drawn by two oxen and driven by women. On they came, slowly over the frosty road, patiently plodding to save their loved ones, the soldiers of Valley Forge. The women of Philadelphia had, out of their own incomes, filled

these wagons with supplies, among which were bundles of their own handwork. These consisted of two thousand shirts, cut out and made by their own delicate fingers. Other things were in proportion, all done by those noble, patient women to save their liberators. The poor soldiers had nearly lost all hope; death appeared inevitable, when, lo! it could be possible, relief was coming to them so far away on those bleak hills? Yes; those ten wagons were driven by noble, self-sacrificing women who came to save them from starvation.

The sick dragged themselves to the doors of their miserable huts to look out through the cold, frosty air at their deliverers. Tears rolled down their cheeks, the sick and suffering all joined in one loud shout of joy, exclaiming, "God bless our deliverers, the women of Philadelphia!" Over hills and down through the valleys the sound went ringing. On through time, on until eternity will the sound of praises echo in memory of that noble band who saved the army at Valley Forge. Those women who asked no reward nor solicited praise. It was on an errand of mercy, for their hearts were tender and their love was strong. We still have reason to cry out, "God bless the women of Philadelphia!" and all over the land, for their good works, the noble enterprises in which they are constantly engaged. There are many noble workers who are willing to-day to make personal sacrifices for the good of humanity. The same blood courses through their veins, actuated by the same spirit that inspired that noble band who saved from starvation the heroes of the revolution, the army of Valley Forge. Time will record their good act. It will be written upon the pages of eternity. Long after the traces of the hills of Valley Forge shall be blotted out, and not a trace of the foundations of fort or tent left, will it be fresh and green in the halls of memory. That generation which has passed away has left its record sacred in the hearts of all. The bodies have long since moldered to dust, but their spirits have ascended, and they have been crowned in glory by Him Who has recorded their good deeds and pronounced their work well done.

Summer Excursions.

In getting up a picnic of your own, young folks, you must have a settled plan of action. You must know who are to compose the party, where you intend to go, and what you can do to amuse yourselves when you get there. Then, too, you must have what in armies is called a commissary department, which shall select about provisions. A picnic without a dinner would be very dull. If the spot you choose is not within walking distance, it is well to know whether it can be easily reached by boat or cars, or by stage or carriage. You should find out beforehand precisely how much it will cost to convey the party to the spot. Then select a treasurer, who shall pay all expenses, buy tickets, and take charge of the funds. The treasurer must keep an exact account of everything he or she may spend, putting it down in writing, that a report may be given at the proper time. In providing luncheon it is an excellent idea for each one to bring some particular article, so that there may be enough of everything. Hard-boiled eggs, potted meats, thin slices of ham or tongue, cold chicken and plenty of good bread and sweet milk, are among the must-haves. Picnic appetites are famous, and you need plenty of the "substantials." Jelly in little glasses, fruit cake, and pie, generally please the little people. Do not forget salt. Nor the pepper. Bottles of milk wrapped in cabbage leaves are not to be overlooked. The girls must remember that so far as possible, all picnic preparations should be made the day before. It is not well to leave cooking for the morning of the day you have to go. The boys, too, should have their fishing-tackle in readiness over night. Things are to be put up, a man should be engaged to see about them, or at least the oldest and most trustworthy boys of the party should see that the ropes are firm, and the tree branches stout. Nothing is more terrible in its consequences than a fall from a swing.

A Cathedral Sinking.

The celebrated cathedral of St. Isaac, at St. Petersburg, which was finished in 1859 at a cost of \$25,000,000, is giving indications of sinking into the ground. As is well known, the Russian capital is constructed on a marsh, and the site of the cathedral was selected in one of the softest portions of it. Upon the foundations, at the outset, \$1,000,000 was spent in driving piles; but at no period has the building maintained a rigid attitude, and at present it manifests a disposition to topple over at one corner altogether. A short time ago an examination revealed that on one side of the structure the columns had parted from the architrave and left a space of three inches between, which the application of tests has shown to be regularly increasing. In consequence of this discovery, the advice of engineers was taken as to lightening the roof, and workmen were engaged to remove the heavy corner bronzes, but as the work proceeded fresh fissures displayed themselves, and the engineers grew so alarmed that they gave up the undertaking altogether as a bad job. Since then nothing has been done except hold consultation after consultation, with no result except the expenditure of a great deal of talk, and the rejection of a number of fancy projects of improvement, more or less impossible to carry out.

When a man refuses to excuse himself for a mean act he has taken a long stride toward becoming a Christian.

Love Marred by Breeches.

"I had rather an amusing love affair myself in Texas, which I should like to tell you, if you do not feel bored with my long anecdote," said the New York man, throwing away his cigar. "I was staying at a rancho on the Rio Grande, and fell in love or thought I had fallen in love, with a beautiful little damsel who resided with her father at a hacienda twenty miles away. I was the possessor of a new pair of buckskin breeches which I had purchased in New Orleans, but had hitherto never worn. One morning I put them on. They fitted perfectly, and I was so delighted with the appearance of my nether limbs, that I determined to pay a visit to Donna Isabella. When half way on my ride, it began to rain in torrents and my breeches began to stretch, and the stretching continued until they hung half a dozen inches below my boot heels. I arrived in the young lady's presence in rather a worse looking condition than that of the drowned rat. However, she received me kindly and conducted me to the kitchen, where a roaring fire was blazing. I sat talking to her while my clothes were drying, and was too much occupied to think about my new breeches, when my love making was cut short by the announcement of supper. I gave my arm to the donna and entered the next room. We were greeted with shouts of laughter from a large company of men and women who were seated at the table. I glanced downward and my eyes fell on the cause of their mirth. My breeches had shrunk with the heat until they had rolled above my knees, leaving a wide space of bare flesh between them and my socks. I looked at the next room. We were greeted with shouts of laughter from a large company of men and women who were seated at the table. I glanced downward and my eyes fell on the cause of their mirth. My breeches had shrunk with the heat until they had rolled above my knees, leaving a wide space of bare flesh between them and my socks. 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