

A LOVE SONG.

Heart-sweetheart, where'er my steps are led—

Where'er my steps are led—

Where'er my steps are led—

Where'er my steps are led—

Where'er my steps are led—

Where'er my steps are led—

Where'er my steps are led—

Where'er my steps are led—

Where'er my steps are led—

Where'er my steps are led—

Where'er my steps are led—

Where'er my steps are led—

Where'er my steps are led—

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DIVORCE CASES DRAW

CURIOUS CROWDS FLOCK TO CHICAGO COURTROOMS.

All Sorts of Types Ranged in Exhibition—Busts of Prominent Men and Women—Stern and Gentle Sexes Have Their Own Fancies and Follies.

When Moses was building up a system of laws for the government of his people he decided that it should be lawful for a man to write his wife a bill of divorce and send her out of his house if she proved to be disappointing, but he made no provision for the wife to shut the door against the husband. But customs as well as laws have undergone a radical change since Moses' time. The rule in these degenerate days is to recognize the fact that women have reached about the same stage of civilization as man has, and another fact is that the woman of today is not a mere chattel but a human being.



A CHICAGO DIVORCE MILL IN ACTION.

fact, it was not very much of an ethical question then, nor is it now. Then it was wife ownership by the husband, and to-day, according to the secular laws, the relation between husband and wife is largely one of dissoluble partnership by petition by either one of the parties in interest to judicial authority. The judicial authority orders that the partnership be continued or dissolved, and when the court has spoken its decree is enduring if the dissolution of the partnership is commanded, but if not the belligerents rarely will continue the battle in another judicial ring.

Hear Cases on Saturdays. The Chicago courts, says the Chronicle, devote Saturdays to hearing divorce cases, and the mills of these judicial gods go at a very rapid rate, but not carelessly or with indifference. Doubtless very many people will be amazed when told that 3,000 divorces are granted every year by the Chicago courts, and as they hear such cases they are almost immediately the first of the parties in interest to judicial authority. It is ascertained, too, that four-fifths of the petitions are filed by women, and nine-tenths of the charges are drunkenness, cruel treatment and abandonment.

Nearly all men applicants for divorce make charges against their wives under the guise of "incompatibility." Only occasionally, except in cases of abandonment, does a defendant let the case go against him or her by default. There seems to be a streak in the nature of such people that forces them to wind up their matrimonial relations by flinging mud, so that the other one is left with suspicion and branded with let the spirit be "devilish," "devilish," "devilish." When such cases are brought to the boards of the crowd of spectators is always large, for the play deals only in perjury, hypocrisy, falsehood, mudslinging, cussedness and human depravity.

It is said that some men and more women are afflicted with a mania to attend funerals, and that it matters little to them whether it be a funeral of a friend, an acquaintance or a stranger. It is enough for them to know that it is a funeral, and that they are "in it" and enjoying the pleasure of the mournful occasion. But however much a funeral may harm some people, one must go to a divorce court when facts which should not be voiced in public are being told.

There is the article that gladdens the heart of such people most is given out raw and by wholesale. There these virtues find the supreme heights of their hearts' delight in pathetic, in brutal and in coldly indifferent recitals of the misfortunes of husbands and wives.

A study of the faces of the habitués of divorce courts is likely to make one believe that the process of evolution has been reversed in them, and that they are grading at the mill of evolution, the gist of which is that hearts that are happiest when misery, dissatisfaction and cruelty are haunting others to and fro in the slough of social and domestic slime and filth.

Such habits are mostly women—women who have no interest there except to feed their minds upon the stories that fall from the witness stand. Perhaps so, and perhaps not, many of them belong to the ranks of the legally separated, but, if their facial expression, either in repose or in expectancy, indicates anything, it is that they do belong there, and even the casual student of human nature would be constrained to congratulate their late matrimonial partners on their escape from such barbarians.

Every Saturday morning the crowds at the court house elevators waiting to be carried up to the several court-

rooms remind one that it is domestic scandal day, and if anything else is wanted to convince one of that fact, a glance at the excited faces will furnish evidence. It is pulling and hauling to secure the most available seats, and when they are secured these faces say, "Now, ring up the curtain." A woman and during the hour a woman may be seen plying her needles, and a man here and there scanning faces, as if trying to make a selection for a wife—his kind of fourth, more or less. So the divorce court is a place not only where matrimonial ties are severed, but also where they are often forged.

Whether men are, on the whole, more really the women are womanly, it has been an open question, but it is true, according to the records of the divorce courts, notably in Chicago, that the women are the average men will tell about every indignity to which they will face the publicity of a divorce trial. It is equally true that the men will tell about every indignity to which they will face the publicity of a divorce trial. It is equally true that the men will tell about every indignity to which they will face the publicity of a divorce trial.

nothing about the experiment, and the family often wondered why in the world I climbed that tree so often. I am a traveling man, and whenever I returned from the road I would lose no time in taking a look at my prospective umbrella handle. It was slow work, however, and the fall of 1897 had rolled around before I finally got an expert, who kept it ten months longer, seasoning and polishing it, and bending the upper end into the crook, which was done by a process of steaming. The result is what you see. I am convinced it is the only thing of its kind in the world, and I take good care to keep it away from umbrella thieves.

RECENT INVENTIONS: In a newly designed folding bicycle the front fork and bottom rear braces are pivoted to fold up against the main frame, while the rods connecting the seat post with the rear hub are hinged, the wheels being removed and the projecting parts bent against the main frame.

Shoes can be readily polished by a new device, having a foot rest attached to the upper side of a box, with parallel rods set on either side of the rest and adapted to guide a long strip of cloth, the latter running under the rails and over the shoe, to be operated by the hands.

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A Common Gender Pronoun. It is still a marvel to writers, who most feel the need of an epicure pronoun, why the suggestion, years ago made by Prof. Marsh, that thou should fill the long felt need, was not accepted. During the '90s another ingenious gentleman proposed such a pronoun, to be declined thus: Heesh—he or she, Hizzer—his or her, Himmer—him or her. Example: "The teacher told John and Mary that he would punish himmer if heesh did not learn hizzer lesson." Let us have a common gender pronoun by all means. The writer's vote is in favor of thou.

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She is an heiress in her own right and is an athletic young woman, with a fondness for sailing, riding, swimming and tennis. She was a playmate of her future husband in her childhood and is 21 years old.

GREW HIS UMBRELLA STOCK

Infinite Pains. A St. Louisan bestowed upon a Maple Sapling. A guest of one of the principal hotels yesterday exhibited a curious and beautiful umbrella handle to a party of admiring friends. It was a crook of silver maple wood, bearing the natural bark, and its ornament consisted of three heavy gold bands, or rings, encircling the shaft at equal distances. What made it remarkable was the self-evident fact that the handle had been put on when the branch was but the handle of a living tree, and much smaller in diameter. The wood had grown through and around the containing metal and bulged out at either side, producing an odd and striking effect. "It took me four years to get the material ready for this umbrella handle," said the proud owner. "I live in the suburbs of St. Louis and have a fine maple tree on the premises. One day the tree occurred to me, and I had a jeweler make me three rings, which I slipped over a small branch and fastened the other ends with cords. I had to select a very diminutive branch, because otherwise the tree would have prevented the rings from going on, and I picked out one pretty high up so it would be out of the way of pilferers. Then I waited patiently for nature to close the bands by process of growth. I did nothing about the experiment, and the family often wondered why in the world I climbed that tree so often. I am a traveling man, and whenever I returned from the road I would lose no time in taking a look at my prospective umbrella handle. It was slow work, however, and the fall of 1897 had rolled around before I finally got an expert, who kept it ten months longer, seasoning and polishing it, and bending the upper end into the crook, which was done by a process of steaming. The result is what you see. I am convinced it is the only thing of its kind in the world, and I take good care to keep it away from umbrella thieves."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

BIDDY BOYCOTTS HER MISTRESS

New York Servant. Misses Herself Upon Unkind Employer. The New York servant has found a way of revenging herself upon an unkind mistress. The plan is not original, but it works satisfactorily. It explains why some women can only keep a servant for a few days. The scheme is simple. The departing domestic writes her opinion of her employer in some hidden nook or cranny, either in the kitchen or in her own room. The new domestic finds this communication, she profits by it. Inquiry at an employment agency on Sixth avenue revealed that this scheme was generally practiced.

"It is no more than could be expected," said the manager of the agency, "that a girl who leaves a place in a rage against her mistress, as many of you do, should want to have a word to say to the next servant that comes in. It's an easy matter to leave a line where the newcomer will find it. One woman told me that on the wall at the head of her servant's bed she found a penciled line. 'The mistress here has got such a temper she'd make your hair curl. My, but she's fussy and mean.'"

"A spot often utilized is in the neighborhood of the clock, but perhaps the most unique one of all was written on a slip of paper and pasted in the bottom of the wash bowl. In going domestics have learned to look for these communications now. A girl sent to a place the other day came back in a few hours. When I asked her what was the matter, she said: 'I didn't like the missus' references. They wasn't as good as mine.' I knew what she meant, and I've told the housewife in question that she had better rub out the notice that her departing maid left."

"The plan was perhaps suggested by



MILLIONAIRE TO WED HEIRESS.

ties. It seemed proper and correct enough to settle all dispute by giving away a king's ransom, but how many young men have there just out of college who could have done it so quickly and so gracefully. Alfred Gwynne is a modest young man and is said to have inherited the Vanderbilt genius for finance.

Young Vanderbilt inherited the Vanderbilt millions in accordance with the traditions of the family. At the death of old Commodore Vanderbilt, the founder of the family, the bulk of his fortune passed to his son, William H. Vanderbilt, who was said to have inherited about \$75,000,000 at the age of 26.

When William H. Vanderbilt died he left the bulk of his fortune to his eldest son, Cornelius, who inherited about \$80,000,000 at the age of 42. And now Alfred Gwynne has inherited \$100,000,000 from his father, the latter cutting off the elder son because of the latter's marriage, which displeased the father. His bride-to-be is a daughter of the late Ormond French, who was tenth in descent from Edward French, one of the founders of Ipswich, Mass., in 1636.

LIFE FOR LIFE STILL THE LAW.

Only Five States in the Union Have Abolished the Death Penalty.

Three legislatures have under discussion propositions to abolish the death penalty. After fifty years of agitation there are only five states in which the death penalty is forbidden by law—Colorado, Rhode Island, Maine, Michigan, and Wisconsin. In Michigan there is a strong agitation for its restoration, Iowa once abolished the death penalty, later restored it, and later again abolished it. Various arguments, of which it would be impossible to give even a synopsis, are employed by those favoring and those opposing. The principle pointed out by the advocates of the change is that capital punishment deters crime. Those who are in favor of the end of justice by hanging judge are reluctant to convict when they know that a verdict of guilty will carry with it the death sentence.

It is cited in which a convict sentenced to life imprisonment for murder, after having served 10 years, was given a parole by the state. The convict, after being released, committed another murder. It is argued that the man should have been hanged for his first crime, and that the state should not be obliged to support a man who has committed a crime so heinous. It is also argued by those opposed to the abolition of the death penalty that capital punishment does deter from crime, as shown by careful investigation; that convicts under a life sentence are a dangerous class, because if they murder their keepers no heavier penalty than that which they are already undergoing can be imposed, and that through the operation of the pardoning power the average term of life imprisonment has been reduced to confinement of about ten years. The constant filling up of prisons, placing heavy burdens upon the public, is also cited. However, the agitation has been without fruit. In about twenty States the court may substitute life imprisonment or upon the recommendation of the jury, and in New York, Massachusetts and Ohio the electric chair has been substituted for the hangman's rope.

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Labor organizations of Seattle are combating the Japanese influx by organizing members who patronize establishments where the Japs are employed. One of the 50 is placed against a Japanese restaurant. It is a prominent one in the city. The Japanese are not only employed in the city, but also in the surrounding territory. The labor organizations are doing their best to protect the interests of the native workers.

The Quincey granite cutters and the Quincey granite manufacturers have signed an agreement after a two months' strike of the former for higher wages and the eight-hour day, and the men have returned to work. They will hereafter work eight hours a day and receive an increase in wages of 14 per cent. A term of three years is provided for to March 1, 1903, without change, and an additional two years under an arbitration clause, which precludes the possibility of any suspension of work.

President Bazeley, of the International Horsehoers' Union, in his annual report, devotes a chapter to automobiles, discussing their possible influence on the future of the horsehoer. While recognizing the possibilities of the "motor wagon," President Bazeley does not see in the supersession of man's most useful assistant—the horse—in any considerable numbers, at least not for some time.

Prince Gustaf, the Future Ruler of Sweden and Norway. Because of his recent expression of sympathy for Great Britain in her trouble in South Africa, King Oscar, of Sweden and Norway, may be requested by his cabinet to abdicate his throne. Prince Gustaf is the heir apparent to the throne and would succeed Oscar. He represents a political party diametrically opposed to that which supports the aged monarch. Gustaf is the most unpopular member of the royal family.

Filed the Bill. Young Obed Perkins—it wasn't right for you to go to see Cynthia while I was gone with her, Seth. She won't keep company with me at all.

Hunting the Ditch. The revolutionist leader was rapidly getting ahead of his men in the wild retreat. The private who sprinted just at his heels managed to say: "Why do you run? I thought you bragged that you would die in the last ditch!"

Quite Another Thing. Perhaps one of the most delicate and tactful remarks ever made was that of a Frenchman who had not found "a life on the ocean wave" quite all that could be expected. He was speaking, pale and disheveled, into his steamer chair, when a passenger asked cheerily: "Ah, good morning, monsieur! Have you breakfasted?"

When a girl stubs her toe, the pain doesn't bother her if she finds that she didn't skin her patent leather shoe.

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