

H. O. M. E.

I was sitting in my cozy parlor, one evening last month, when the door opened and young Mrs. Hapless came in. We called her "young Mrs. Hapless" because her husband's mother lives in the village also. If I had not been accustomed to her appearance I should have supposed some dreadful thing was the matter. She had on an old calico wrapper which never was pretty, but by frequent washing had become faded and streaked; half the buttons were gone, the sleeves and waist in rags and the skirt torn. Her hair was "done up" in a hairpin screw; she wore no collar, and over her head she had pinned a faded plaid shawl which I had seen more than once doing duty as an apron while she washed dishes.

She nodded to me without a smile, and sinking down on a chair, looked dazedly round my pretty room. "Good evening to her ways, so only said "Good evening."

After a few moments she began in a fretful voice to speak.

"Oh, Mrs. Sunny, how comfortable you do look! You never have any troubles, do you?"

A shiver ran through me as I thought what my troubles had been, but I knew the little woman had come to speak of herself, so I just said, quietly: "Doesn't every one?"

"Oh, I am full of 'troubles'! But where is your husband this evening? He is always at home."

"Oh, no, not always," I answered. "This evening he has gone to a political meeting, and there are other evenings when he goes to two different lodges he belongs to."

"But surely, Mrs. Sunny, you don't like him to go to lodges? Why, I think they are horrid! Nobody knows what they do."

I laughed, she looked so tragic.

"Well," I said, "I don't want to know, for I suppose I should not understand. I urged him to go to this political meeting because he wanted to."

"I urged him to go! Well, I call that queer! Why, I coaxed John—John is her husband—to stay with me, and we had a quarrel. I think a man ought to find pleasure in his home sometimes, but John goes out every evening; he goes to his mother's often."

"You never accompany him?" I asked.

"Oh, dear, no. I'm too tired. Why, I haven't been to see Mother Hapless for a whole month. She's dreadfully smart and has everything just so; it's just spoiled John. He seems to think every one ought to be like his mother; he doesn't say much, but he just looks around so, and then goes clearing off a chair to sit down. He hardly says anything but to ask if supper is ready, and then, soon as it is over, he puts on his hat and I never see him till bedtime, and not then often, for I go to bed 'cause I'm lonesome."

I could not but pity the forlorn little wife, left alone all the day and evening; but I knew that she made no home for her husband, while at his mother's he found everything bright, the house orderly, and the still pretty mother prettily dressed and only too glad to have her boy with her. I had often pitied his wife, even while I blamed her. However, now that she herself had broached the subject, I felt that I might offer some advice and assistance, so I said:

"Would you like me to help you to keep your husband at home?"

She opened her big brown eyes as she answered:

"Of course, I would. I often wonder why Mr. Sunny seems to really enjoy his home so much."

I proposed going over to her house, and with a blush she consented, saying wearily:

"It doesn't look like yours."

No, it did not, I acknowledged to myself as we entered the sitting room, passing through the dining room on our way, where the supper dishes were spread on the table, just as she had dumped—I can think of no more fitting term—them after they were washed. There was no table in the middle of the sitting room, but on a small one in a corner an oil lamp burned with a one-sided flame, which partly smoked the chimney. Every chair in the room had something on it, for Mrs. Hapless said she had been looking over her "dresses and things." There was a litter of scraps, spoons, pincushions and other paraphernalia for sewing on the table, two fashion magazines, and a paper pattern unfolded; the fire was low and the room chilly. I suppose the contrast to my own made it appear more uninviting to me, and I could not but wonder where John could have sat.

I cleared part of an old dress off a chair and sat down by the almost cold stove; then I asked the poor little shiftless woman if I might tell her a story. She looked as if she thought me crazy, and said, hesitatingly:

"Yes."

"It is the story of my own life," I began. "I was the daughter of a man who never could stay in one place, so we were always moving; if it was not from one town to another it was from one house to another; therefore I grew up with no sense of real homelike feeling. I married very young, and was charmed to find that my husband not only took me to a snug home, but also that he owned the house and expected to live in it, as he said, always."

"At first we were very happy; the novelty of having a home of my own gave to housekeeping a charm. I had a neat tea table, flowers, plenty of light, music and everything as in our courtship days, and Henry seemed as pleased to be with me as he had been before we were married."

"As long as summer lasted all was easy enough. We had agreed that we'd keep no servant; a woman came every day and did the rough work and I did not mind the rest. But when winter came I gradually left off using my best things on the table; it was too much trouble, and as my hands chapped easily I left the dishes for the woman to wash, and that meant to break; so I bought common white ware. I saw

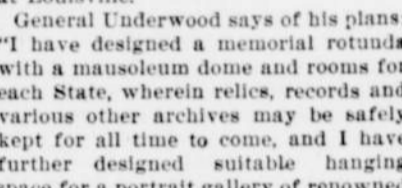
WILL HONOR HEROIC DEAD.

Confederates Will Erect a Memorial at Richmond, Va. The recent convention of Confederate veterans held at Louisville voted to accept with thanks the offer of \$100,000 made by Charles Broadway Rouse of New York, formerly a soldier of the Confederacy from Virginia, for the purpose of erecting a memorial to the Confederate dead at Richmond, Va. The Memorial Committee reported that it had secured pledges of \$124,437.35 in addition, and that the prospect of raising an amount sufficient to make the total, including Mr. Rouse's donation, \$200,000 was excellent. Upon these representations Mr. Rouse has authorized the Confederate Veterans' Association to draw upon him for the amount pledged by him at any time it may be thought advisable to begin the work. The Confederate Memorial Association, which has the enterprise in hand, has elected Judge George L. Christian of Richmond, Va., as its treasurer, and the memorial is to be built at Richmond, the heart-city of the Confederacy and the place where, for four years, the policies and plans were evolved in consequence of which the South was enabled to make so memorable a struggle against inevitable defeat.

The definite arrangements for the construction of the memorial do not yet appear to have been completed by the association, but General J. C. Underwood, the Secretary and superintendent of the work of raising funds, has prepared plans with the approval of some members of the executive committee.

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General Underwood says of his plans: "I have designed a memorial rotunda with a mausoleum dome and rooms for each State, wherein relics, records and various other archives may be safely kept for all time to come, and I have further designed a suitable hanging space for a portrait gallery of renowned Southern leaders, and I personally propose to bestow upon the people of the South twenty or more magnificent portraits, full size, in oil, of distinguished Confederate officers, both civil and military, as soon as a suitable place shall have been made to receive them. And, besides, I also present to you for inspection statue models of President Jefferson Davis and General Robert E. Lee, the civil and military heads of the historic Confederacy, for the manufacture of which in bronze I, individually, propose to raise the requisite money, and, as in the case of the portraits, to donate the same to the association, to be placed on either side of the grand flight of steps to the portico of the said proposed memorial building, provided such meets with your approval.

"The maximum estimated round cost of the design I propose is \$300,000, not including statuary and portraits, and calculating upon the building site being donated. With the amount raised, these due, others promised and anticipations reasonably based upon the backing I have demonstrated, I am confident of being able to secure at least \$500,000, and if my designs are approved and authority given me to proceed in accordance therewith I'll obligate myself to construct the memorial building as designed, with such modifications as may be found necessary to suit the building site to be selected and other essential requirements of the case in every particular.

"My general plan includes the placing by each State of two statues, either in bronze or marble, as may hereafter be determined, to suit inside flanking of auditorium rotunda, and that the several States shall select their heroes to be immortalized, each State bearing the expense of such statuary (from \$10,000 to \$12,000) representing its own heroes, but the portico statues and two equestrian statues of Generals J. E. B. Stuart and N. B. Forrest I propose to secure by money to be raised from outside friendly sources and already have assurances of material assistance for that purpose."

Berlin's Sewage System.

The sewage system of Berlin annually transports from 90,000,000 to 70,000,000 tons of sewage for distribution over an area of 20,000 acres lying from seven to fifteen miles beyond the city limits. Although the cost of the drainage is about \$25,000,000 a year, the enormously increased fertility of the land makes it a paying operation. Besides that, it is the most sanitary and scientific mode of disposing of the city's sewage.

Foreigners in Japan.

To eat with chopsticks, and sit on mats, and wear big-sleeved coats do not bring a man any nearer to genuinely intimate intercourse with the Japanese people. The language is also needed. Yet even when the language is added something still remains to be achieved. No foreigner has ever succeeded in being admitted to the inner circle of Japanese intercourse.—Japan Mail.

How She Got It.

A little girl who had been told not to ask for anything to eat at a neighbor's came home with a face very suggestive of lurching. When asked by her mother why she had asked for something, she said:

"But, mamma, I didn't ask Mrs. G. I just looked at her and said: 'Can't you see how hungry I am?'"—New York Truth.

Try to Sleep.

A novel remedy for insomnia is to try to picture yourself another person asleep. The more fully the sleeper suffers can do this the stronger becomes the subject's feeling of drowsiness.

We have heard of several, but never knew a man who could enjoy a joke on himself.

THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA.



AS LONG ago as 1819 the American navy had its first fight with the Chinese; and in Japan and Corea the United States has also landed parties to demand satisfaction for injuries to American citizens. The chief role of the United States in Asia has been as the sponsor for China, Japan and Corea as nations. The United States was the first nation to make a treaty with China by which that country recognized the principle of international law, and it was followed promptly by other nations. An American naval officer secured the first commercial treaty with Japan, forced the Shogun to admit foreigners to trade, and incidentally brought about the overthrow of a usurper and the establishment of the present liberal government in control. Corea's first treaty was with the United States, as was that of the king of the Loo Choo Isles. The United States in 1804 made the first treaty with Japan that treated the Mikado's empire as a civilized nation. Within the last year this country secured the adoption of an agreement for the open door in China by the powers. Some of the most influential generals, admirals and diplomats have been Americans. It is on account of these facts that when the present trouble arose the suggestion was made in many foreign countries that the United States should settle the crisis in China and also because of the known disinterestedness of the United States, which has allowed other powers to reap the territorial advantages that have followed its action. So, too, the Chinese minister was not without reason for his suggestion that the Monroe doctrine be applied to China.

The first experience of the Chinese with Americans grew out of a somewhat similar state of affairs to that in the Mediterranean, where the United States suppressed the Barbary pirates, who had been levying tribute on the ships of the great nations without hindrance. Chinese waters were also infested with pirates, against whom the Europeans had made no determined resistance. The United States ship *Atkins*, under the command of Capt. Bacon, happened along in 1819. The ship entered the river at Macao and sent a boat crew in command of the chief officer ashore to get a pilot. The pirate junk stole quietly up and suddenly rounded the boat, intending to leap on board and kill the crew. When the Americans realized what had happened they turned their loaded cannon on the Chinese and fought off the boarders with their Brown Bess muskets and boarding pikes. The Chinese gave up the battle, throwing land grenades and blowing up the boats. The pirates were taken on board, and the leader was such a man of his prestige that he was afterwards betrayed by some of his men. The mandarins put him to death by the means known as the "thousand cuts," a slow and prolonged process of hacking into little bits. Capt. Bacon's lesson, however, taught the Chinese pirates to respect the American flag, and American trade grew and prospered.

The opium war, which was declared against China by Great Britain in 1840, was responsible for the opening of that nation to the world's commerce by means of the treaty ports which were afterwards established. That war grew out of the attempt of China to suppress the smuggling of opium carried on by the British to the depletion of the imperial revenues. To support the trade the Chinese used force. But after the short, sharp struggle in 1842, which resulted in the capture of Canton by the allied British and French, the United States was one of the powers that joined with England, France and Russia in securing treaties of freedom of trade.

The first foreigner employed by the Chinese for the reorganization of their army was an American, Frederick Townsend Ward, a soldier of fortune, born in Massachusetts. He adopted the Chinese nationality under the name of Iwa, married the daughter of a wealthy mandarin, and was made a mandarin of the highest grade and Admiral General in the service of the Emperor. Ward turned his attention to the reorganization of the empire's army, but found it a difficult task. He found that the result of a wound received in directing an assault on Tsekie, the Chinese paid him the highest possible honors after his death by burying him in the Confucian cemetery at Ninpo. Ward's successor in command of the Chinese forces was Major Charles G. Gordon—"Chinese" Gordon—who brought to a high degree of discipline and efficiency the army whose foundations had been laid by Ward.

The treaty made in 1858 provided for the application of the rules of international law to the conduct of war by the nations, gave China the right to appoint consuls to the United States, provided for the recognition of freedom of religion in China, and permitted Chinese to embrace Christianity, permitted the Chinese to attend schools in America and to have free right of travel here, and for all the mutual privileges which are allowed to the most favored nation. The Chinese exclusion

act later excluded the Chinese, and in this again the United States was first and was followed by Australia, the only other nation where the coolie competition was felt.

When the war with Japan ended disastrously for China Li Hung Chang turned immediately to America to secure a disinterested adviser to aid in the peace negotiations and watch the interests of the imperial government. The man upon whom his choice fell was John W. Foster, who had succeeded James G. Blaine as Secretary of State. Mr. Foster went to Shimonoiki and conducted his negotiations to the satisfaction of the Chinese government. In the case of Japan the United States was actually the godfather of the new nation.

Japan had been a closed nation from 1638, when the Portuguese had been expelled, until 1854, when Commodore M. C. Perry, a brother of the victor on Lake Erie, opened the country to foreign trade. The Japanese government did not permit any foreign vessel to touch at a Japanese port under any pretext. In 1853 the United States had its first trouble with the Japanese government. Commodore Giesinger, learning that some American sailors were imprisoned at Nagasaki, sent Commodore Glynn to demand their liberation. He succeeded in doing so, and the report he then made of the resources of the island was partly responsible for the determination of Daniel Webster, then Secretary of State, to open the islands to American trade.

The acquisition of a Pacific coast line by the United States suggested to Millard Fillmore and Daniel Webster that the United States should be the chief trading power in the East, and that the commerce of Japan would be profitable. Commodore Perry was, therefore, given a letter to the Mikado, signed by the President and written by Daniel Webster, soliciting a treaty of friendship and commerce between the two nations by which the Mikado's ports should be thrown open to American vessels for purpose of trade.

Commodore Perry sailed in November, 1852, with a fleet, and he carried with him many useful implements and inventions as presents to the Japanese government, including a small railway and equipment, and a telegraph line—things which were unknown to the Japanese. Commodore Perry's instructions, which he received from Webster before the Secretary's death, were to approach the Emperor of Japan in the most friendly manner, and to use no violence unless attacked, but if attacked to let the Japanese feel the full weight of his power.

Perry carried out his instructions by sailing to Yeddo and delivering his letter to the authorities with the request that it be presented to the Emperor. The Japanese, in accordance with their custom, refused to permit him to land, and Perry waited for his answer for several months, during which he surveyed the Loo Choo Islands. While in these islands he made the first treaty negotiated by them with a Caucasian power. After waiting several months Commodore Perry returned to the Bay of Yeddo, and finally by a triumph of diplomacy, aided by the sight of his seven ships, effected a landing and obtained a treaty permitting the Americans to trade. This treaty permitted citizens of the United States to trade with Japan through the ports of Simoda and Hakodade and the United States was authorized to appoint consuls to represent its interest at these ports. It was stipulated that steamships from California to China should be furnished with supplies of coal, and that American sailors shipwrecked upon the Japanese coast should be treated humanely and not killed or imprisoned, as had been the Japanese custom in their attempt to secure isolation. Thus Japan, after 216 years of seclusion, entered into the family of nations. The other powers were quick to follow the United States' example and secured similar treaties, and three other ports were soon added to which Western people might trade.

Perry's visit was the cause of the overthrow of the dynasty then in power in Japan. From the twelfth century the authority of the Mikados had been nominal. They had been relegated among the gods and their power was exercised through a Shogun, who was the real sovereign. When the Shogun yielded to the American demands it created a profound sensation in Japan. The nobles were indignant at the departure from the traditional policy of the empire. They gained the upper hand, and in 1863 ordered the Shogun to abrogate treaties of commerce. Attacks on the foreigners followed, and foreign vessels attempting to enter treaty ports were fired upon. One of

LABOR NOTES.

The American Federation of Labor gained 150,000 members during 1899.

The eight-hour system has been inaugurated on the police force at Memphis, Tenn.

The eight-hour day has been enforced in nearly all cities and towns in New England.

Seventeen States and territories have laws forbidding the practice of black-listing employes.

The Illinois Central Railroad Company is selling shares of stock on the installment plan to its employes.

It costs 74 cents in wages to produce a pair of men's fine grade, calf, welt, lace shoes, single soles and box toes.

Labor is paid 9 cents per yard for producing one yard of finest body Brussels carpet. Price at stores, \$1.25 per yard.

Thirteen States in the Union have statutes which make it lawful for workmen to combine to increase their wages.

Average wages of cloakmakers in sweatshops of Cincinnati is \$9 per week for family of six persons, living in two rooms.

The Woman's International Trade Union Label League has organized a large branch in Chicago and is spreading to other cities.

The World's Labor Congress will hold its sessions in Paris from Sept. 23 to 28. Delegates from every country will be present.

Street railway motormen in Virginia work 11½ hours and receive \$1.57 per day. Conductors work eleven hours and receive \$1.50 per day.

Constitution of Utah provides for arbitration, prohibits child labor, convict labor and blacklisting and provides for eight-hour day on public work.

Trades unionism has had a phenomenal growth in Georgia in the last year. There are three times as many local unions and four times as many organized workers as one year ago.

HEAT OF THE EARTH FOR FUEL.

Foran Scheme in the Sixties for Producing Unlimited Steam Power.

"A distinguished scientist has seriously suggested the sinking of boilers deep enough to use the heat of the earth as fuel," said a prominent engineer of this city. "That sounds rather fantastic, in view of the fact that a depth of 12,000 feet would be necessary to boil water, but a scheme of the same sort was urged with great energy back in the '60s by a Washington inventor named Foran. If my memory is correct," says a writer in the *New Orleans Times Democrat*, "Foran was a man of considerable means and a mathematician of ability. The internal heat of the earth is supposed to equal about one degree to the 100 feet of penetration, but he claimed to have discovered that the percentage was very much greater and increased in compound ratio after a certain depth was reached. He figured out an elaborate table and proposed to sink a huge shaft, with accumulators at the bottom, from which unlimited steam would be supplied to the surface. All that was needed was a few million dollars' capital to pay for the digging and the plant, and he immediately set to work to raise the amount. It is a striking commentary upon the short memory of the reading public that this singular enterprise, which attracted so much attention at the time and was the subject of almost unlimited newspaper notoriety, should now be practically forgotten. Foran succeeded in interesting a number of people of wealth and formed a joint stock company, but meanwhile his calculations were assailed by scientists, and it was shown pretty clearly that the figures were incorrect. He replied with great bitterness, and the consequence was that the scheme went to pieces in the shock of controversy. What became of Foran I do not know. If the problem is ever actually solved, I suppose he will be fished out of the limbo of cranks and visionaries to take his proper place in history."

A Curious Coincidence.

Sir Herbert Maxwell seems to occupy a unique place in Parliament. Probably he is the only member of the House of Commons who can claim to be descended from an ancestor of precisely the same name as himself who sat in Parliament over 600 years ago. His forbear, Sir Herbert Maxwell of Carlarveock, sat in the Parliament of Seane, 1283-84, and agreed to accept Margaret of Norway as his sovereign in the event of the death of Alexander III, and he was also a member of the Parliament of 1289-90. This worthy's brother, Sir John, it is further curious to observe, although not himself a member of Parliament so far as known, has also his representative and namesake in the House of Commons in the person of Sir John Stirling Maxwell, direct descendant. Sir Herbert Maxwell and Sir John Maxwell were both "commendees" by Edward I. to perform military service "beyond the seas"—i. e., in France—in 1297.

The Book of Gibraltar.

England's famous natural fortification is situated at the southern extremity of Spain, in Andalusia. At various times great sums of money have been expended to add to its impregnability, until now it is regarded as an almost impenetrable stronghold. The chief points of defense are on its western side. Several miles of caverns and galleries penetrate the rock, which presents a solid and formidable front on the land side; on the other great cannon from rrown upon the Bay of Gibraltar. The fortress is fairly honeycombed with bombshells and cannon balls. It was taken from the original owners over 150 years ago.

Every woman must spoil something; a man, baby, or dog. We have noticed it is rarely a man.

You can't invent anything so silly that it won't go with some people.