

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE CENTENARY



HOUSE IN BRUNSWICK, ME., WHERE "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" WAS WRITTEN

IN JUNE of this year the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Harriet Beecher Stowe will be widely celebrated. A new life of the "little woman who made the great war," as Lincoln called her, is about to come from the press, written by her son, Charles Edward Stowe, and her grandson, Lyman Beecher Stowe.

Among the most interesting of the facts it brings out is that it never occurred to the "little woman" that there was anything about "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in the least likely to precipitate a war. She wrote the book with the kindest feelings toward the south, and her aim was to be not only just but generous.

To begin with, Mrs. Stowe was not of the extreme abolitionist type. It was her firm belief that the better element in the south hated slavery, and that this element was much larger than was commonly supposed. Then, too, while she loathed the system with all her heart she was willing to believe that it took more often than not the kindly patriarchal form.

She gave Uncle Tom three masters, and two of them were kind. She made one of her plantation owners detest slavery and free his slaves. She wanted to make the north understand that the best southerners would co-operate with them in a reasonable attempt to do away with the evil.

Never was a little lady more surprised to find herself execrated. Her feeling had been when she first wrote the book that it would displease the abolitionists and bring sympathetic response from the south—that is, if anybody ever read it at all, which she had doubted.

When the book appeared the world turned topsy-turvy for her. Garrison, with whom she never quite agreed, wrote her that she was no longer abused—she had drawn it all on herself. People in the south who had not read the book, or who had read it with their minds made up beforehand, thought her some sort of a monster. A cousin who lived in Georgia did not dare put the name of Mrs. Stowe on the envelope when she wrote to her.

Mrs. Stowe found herself, in short, put in a class of agitators with whom she had never belonged, and the poor little dove of peace she had sent out came back with its feathers ruffled beyond recognition.

The question of slavery came into her life at an early period. It is not true that she knew nothing of the "peculiar institution" at first hand. She lived long in Cincinnati and met there many southerners, and it was on plantations where she visited that she got the color for the book she was to write many years after.

She was hardly more than a girl when she visited the Kentucky planta-



HARRIET BEECHER STOWE IN 1851

tion which became afterward the home of Uncle Tom and Eliza, and about the same time she met Topsy. Topsy came to Cincinnati in the company of a wealthy Louisiana family which had liberated its slaves and it was in trying to teach her religion that the famous conversation occurred: "Do you know who made you?" "Nobody as I know of; I 'spect I grewed."

In 1836 Cincinnati became the hotbed of anti-slavery talk. Mr. Theodore Weld of Lane Theological seminary led the movement. He had spent much of his life in the midst of slavery and was dedicating the remainder of his life to its overthrow. His ablest assistant, the editor of an abolitionist paper, was Dr. Birney, a slave owner from Alabama, who had freed his slaves, and come away to fight the system.

It was natural that with these friends Mrs. Stowe should have had kindly feelings toward the south, should have thought that it was rapidly wakening to the horror of slavery, and that the majority of its citizens were anxiously trying to put an end to it. As far as the "cause" was concerned her associations were with anti-slavery southerners rather than the northern abolitionists.

Henry Ward Beecher edited in Cincinnati a small daily paper, his sister, now Mrs. Stowe, helping him. She records an incident of the agitation in Cincinnati that shows the fighting blood of the young man who was to become the great preacher.

Dr. Birney's abolitionist paper was wrecked by a mob, and she writes: "Many respectable citizens are inclined to wink at the outrage in consideration of its moving in the line of their prejudices." Henry Ward Beecher did not wink. He feared an attack on his own paper, and his sister found him one day making bullets in the kitchen. She asked what he was making them for.

"To kill men with," he answered grimly, and Mrs. Stowe, telling her son about it years later, said: "I never saw Henry look so terrible. I chubby legs into the chair that stood near the gold fish globe. Poised on the rounding cushion, baby reached far over to touch the gold fish. In reaching she lost her balance and fell, dragging the globe to the floor. There was a crash, a scream, a rush, and mamma was on the spot. Baby was picked up, kissed and scolded.

"I deem I killed old Mussentouchit 'a time!" she said, shaking herself and winking off.

In Praise of Ice Cream.
Sunday dinner without ice cream is an imposition on the whole family. Say, brother, did you ever notice the expression of the faces of the children when they were ready for ice cream, and canned peaches were brought in? There is a chance for mutiny and rebellion right there. When the family is feeling grouchy just serve them vanilla ice cream and pour hot thick chocolate over the ice cream. Then life is worth living.

Six Carloads of Chickens.
Thirty thousand chickens passed through western cities recently from Nebraska to San Francisco. The

did not like it, for I feared he was growing bloodthirsty."

Professor Stowe helped at times the underground railroad. He it was who took the original of Eliza and "Little Harry" to the house of the old Quaker when the master was pursuing the fugitives. It was not long after this that she wrote she felt keenly the need of an intermediate party which would oppose slavery without the violence of abolitionists. But, she said, if no such party was formed many people would be forced to join the abolitionists "in spite of their excesses."

In 1850 the Stoves left Cincinnati for Brunswick, Me. It was there that her great resolve was taken that she would use her pen to fight slavery. Already she was a successful author and deeply interested in the cause of the slave. Her brother wrote and put the proposition to her squarely: why did she not write about the subject nearest her heart and make people understand? It was in the little parlor of her Brunswick home. She read the letter aloud. As she finished the appeal she rose from her chair, crushing the letter in her hand and said: "God helping me, I will write."

The material for "Uncle Tom's Cabin" came from various sources, but she verified them all. The Kentucky plantation she already knew. The slaves whom she had known in Cincinnati had talked freely, giving the light as well as the tragedy of their lot.

Uncle Tom seems to have been drawn from Joshua Hoosen, a black man of great sweetness and piety, who told her appalling stories of life as he had seen it.

The book, then, was published, with many misgivings, but none among them was that the south would fail to understand the friendliness of her spirit. Then she found herself the most famous and the most abused woman in the world.

Mrs. Stowe had that exaltation of character which lifts a soul above praise or blame. In the midst of the tumult she wrote poetry and planned a trip to England in the interest of the cause. It is typical of her ingenuousness that she was much surprised to find herself welcomed and feted on the other side of the ocean. Where she had expected to rest and see nobody, she discovered she was the talk of the country.

When the war broke out Mrs. Stowe's son was among the first to go. She wrote afterward: "It was the will of God . . . that the slave mothers whose tears nobody regarded should have with them a great company of weepers, north and south—Rachels weeping for their children and refusing to be comforted."

After the war Mrs. Stowe went south and lived for a time in Florida. The scheme was to raise cotton with free labor, but it failed disastrously. In other ways the stay in the south was a success, and everywhere Mrs. Stowe appears to have been treated with consideration. The era of abuse was over.

After cotton they tried to raise oranges, but a frost spoiled that plan. Mrs. Stowe lost \$34,000 in this way, and then she founded the Christian Union with her brother, Henry Ward Beecher, and lost most of the rest of her money. She kept writing, not because her fame tempted her, but because the money was needed. "Uncle Tom's Cabin," which made so many fortunes, never yielded her more than a few hundred dollars.

Quite a Novelty.
"You say his society drama is a novelty?"
"Yes. There was no fascinating freestyle wrecker in it and the heroine remained unmarried for nearly six months after she got her divorce."

After Money.
Bill—I see that one out of every ten letters passing through the Russian post office is opened on general principles.

Jill—Gee! There isn't money in as many as that, is there?—Yonkers Statesman.

fowls were sidetracked at various points and were viewed by many people. The shipment was made by J. G. Ganschlin, who owns a number of poultry houses in different parts of Nebraska. It consisted of six carloads, every car carrying approximately five thousand fowls.

Each car had a keeper, who gave the birds constant attention and saw that they were properly fed and watered. The trip is usually made in eight days, but in this instance it took fifteen days on account of snow.

A Partnership.
"My father and I know everything in the world," said a small boy to his companion.
"All right," the latter said. "Where's Asia?"

It was a stiff question, but the little fellow answered coolly: "That is one of the questions my father knows."

Literal Feeling.
"Did the boss kick when you asked for more pay?"
"He did; but I wouldn't have minded his kicking so much if the stairs had not been so near and so steep."

WASHABLE RUGS IN KITCHEN

None Other Should Be Used, for the Most Excellent of Sanitary Reasons.

Rugs for a kitchen should always be washable, as the grease they accumulate is unspeakable. Good looking mixtures in rag weaves are suitable and far more sanitary than the custom of some households of using rugs that have grown too shabby for other rooms. A wool rug should be put on the line and well beaten once a week and should be wiped off frequently with soap bark and water or with a special carpet soap.

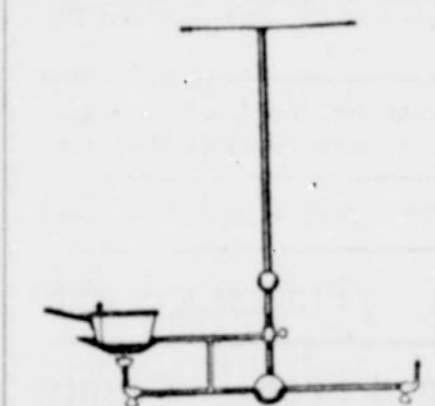
The sink, besides daily scrubbing, should be wiped out once a day with a cloth wet in kerosene or turpentine to remove lingering stains on the enamel. If the sink is an old-fashioned one it should be rubbed with coal ashes to remove discoloration and later scrubbed well with hot soda water. At least once a day pour a good disinfectant or hot soda water down the drain. Keep a box of washing soda on a shelf over the sink and dissolve a lump with the last rinsing water. This is a grease cutter.

Kitchen closets can only be kept in condition by thorough surveillance. There must be no poke holes, no uncovered boxes, nothing to attract insect pests. Have plenty of enameled boxes or use the tin receptacles in which coffee is often sold. In these put cereals, sugar, rice, coffee, salt, breadcrumbs, chocolate, tapioca, hominy and other things that too often are kept in their own packages after they have been opened.

NEW DEVICE FOR GAS HEATER

So Constructed as to Hold a Receptacle Over the Flame From One Burner.

A device for heating shaving water and other things over the flame of one gas burner has been designed by a Minnesota man and should come in handy for the bathroom boarder. An arm is mounted on the main, or vertical, pipe of the chandelier and the free end of the arm holds a substantially



conical plate, in which the receptacle holding the material to be heated rests. The arm is slidably mounted on the chandelier, held in place by a thumb screw, and can be adjusted to different heights from the flame. It also swings from side to side, so that it can be quickly pushed away from the flame without turning out the light to withdraw the heat. A stop bar holds it parallel with the arm of the burner. The conical shape of the pan that holds the receptacle allows the flame to spread under it and distributes the heat.

Mosaic Sandwiches.

Cut three slices each of white and dark graham bread. Spread a slice of white bread with creamed butter and place a slice of graham bread on it. Now spread graham with creamed butter and place on a slice of white bread. Repeat this process, beginning with graham. Put both piles in a cool place with a light weight on them. When the butter has become hardened, trim each pile even, cut each pile in three half-inch slices. Spread with creamed butter and put together so that a white block will alternate with a graham one. Put under weight in a cool place and when butter is hardened cut in thin slices.

Creamed Gried Beef.

Tear the beef, or rather shred or chop it fine, taking out the skin and strips of tallow. Place in heavy spider, add a good tablespoonful of butter and let melt, adding one tablespoonful of flour. Stir, then add slowly, two to two and a half cups of milk, stirring till smooth and thick. Pour over platter of toast. This may be served without toast and with baked potatoes. The quantity of milk used must be determined by the amount of beef you use.

To Whip Cream.

Whipping cream is always a difficult task and often a disappointing one if one sees the cream turn to butter when butter is the last thing wanted. This can be prevented if the bowl is kept in a pan of ice water during the beating.

The New Iron Kettle.

Before using a new iron kettle, grease inside and outside, let stand 48 hours, then wash in hot water in which a large lump of cooking soda has been dissolved.

HOW IS YOUR LIVER?

ARE YOU TROUBLED WITH SICK HEADACHE, BILIOUSNESS, CRAMPS, INDIGESTION, DYSPEPSIA, MALARIA

TRY HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS

For 58 years it has given satisfaction in such cases and you'll find it just the medicine you need.

After the oldest map of the age of various maps that have come down to us from ancient times it has been finally determined by savants that the oldest is in the form of a mosaic in a Byzantine church at Malaba, in Palestine. It is about 1,700 years old and purports to be a map of a part of the Holy Land.

SHE SUFFERED FIVE YEARS

Finally Cured by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Erie, Pa. — "I suffered for five years from female troubles and at last was almost helpless. I went to three doctors and they did me no good, so my sister advised me to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and when I had taken only two bottles I could see a big change, so I took six bottles and I am now strong and well again. I don't know how to express my thanks for the good it has done me and I hope all suffering women will give Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound a trial. It was worth its weight in gold."—Mrs. J. P. ENDLICH, R. F. D. No. 7, Erie, Pa.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from native roots and herbs, contains no narcotic or harmful drugs, and to-day holds the record for the largest number of actual cures of female diseases we know of, and thousands of voluntary testimonials are on file in the Pinkham laboratory at Lynn, Mass., from women who have been cured from almost every form of female complaints, such as inflammation, ulceration, displacements, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, indigestion and nervous prostration. Every suffering woman owes it to herself to give Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound a trial.

If you want special advice write Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass., for it. It is free and always helpful.

Rhode Island's State Farm.
Rhode Island has a farm on which are located all her state institutions, including the state prison, state workhouse and Providence jail. The workhouse prisoners have done much in reclaiming and cultivating land, removing stones, improving the stream and building walls.

A Cough Medicine

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is a regular cough medicine, a strong medicine, a doctor's medicine. Good for easy coughs, hard coughs, desperate coughs. If your doctor endorses it for your case, take it. If not, don't take it. Never go contrary to his advice.

Ayer's

The dose of Ayer's Pills is small, only one at bedtime. As a rule, laxative doses are better than cathartic doses. For constipation, biliousness, dyspepsia, sick-headaches, they cannot be excelled. Ask your doctor about this.

Made by the J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

END OF OLD MUSSENTOUCHIT

Baby Smashed the Gold Fish Globe, but Killed the Mysterious and Hatelful Creature.

There was one word the little girl heard many times a day and could not imagine what it was. The word was Mussentouchit. Baby wondered who Mussentouchit could be. The strange thing lived in the bureau drawers; it lived in the sewing machine; it lived in the tall jar that stood on the little round table; it certainly lived in the glass globe where the gold fishes swam.

This went on till baby was two years old. Mussentouchit was everywhere—in the shining books on the parlor table; in the flower beds; among the roses; even in mamma's workbasket the strange thing lived; and if baby took up a reel of silk or cotton, there was Mussentouchit.

One day baby found herself by the glass globe all alone. The family were very busy, and for a few minutes forgot the little, prying, restless darling. This was her chance. Up went the