

Historic Gossips

In that state of life into which the contracting parties are advised "not to enter lightly" but with "due consideration," the question often arises in after life: "Would the same woman or man appeal to you as a mate if you could turn back the calendar and be given free choice?"

"Old Hickory," the hero of New Orleans, answered to the world, with a proudly defiant affirmative, "Yes, by the Eternal." He stood ready to share the name of Andrew Jackson with Rachel Donelson, son in a thousand marriage ceremonies, if the law required it; for she was the first, last and only choice of his affections.

Browning wrote "Grow old along with me; the best is yet to be, but all that I have is you, and you are mine." Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jackson had to face the fact that there were circumstances connected with their union which were unfortunate, though not blameworthy. Jackson's political enemies fanned these into a flame of scandal that finally broke the heart of the little backwoods beauty, so that she never came to critical Washington, but was borne to her grave at the Hermitage in the white satin dress she had made for her husband's inaugural, writes Cassie Mouton Lyons in the National Republic.

It was a rainy, sad little funeral, back there in the garden of their beloved Hermitage, when kindly neighbors who knew and appreciated Rachel Jackson's many virtues and true worth, strewn new picked cotton to cover the mud and dirt on the final pathway of this single soul who had to endure mud-splashing and relentless calumny when pious, political enemies sought to smother Jackson's aspirations by portraying him to the world as a libertine, a man who had taken another man's wife.

Criticisms and the Real Truth
John Randolph of Roanoke flayed these critics but the poison gas of prejudice had spread thru the Atlantic coast states, and fashionable Washington looked askance when tidings came of Jackson's election as chief executive. Pious wives lifted hands in horror and exclaimed: "Can we be expected to notice his wife, whom we hear looks like a wash-woman, and smokes and clogs in public—with no regard for the sanctity of marriage?" Yet the truth is Rachel Jackson was a Presbyterian of the stern old variety, given to prayers, and earnestly solicitous as to her husband's salvation.

Andrew Jackson had built her a church, handy to the Hermitage, to cheer the lonely hours when he was winning Florida for the nation. But Rachel never got around to lay aside his great profanity. He did consent to say "grace" at the table, which was a wonderful concession to his wife's wishes by the doughty old Indian fighter who routed Pakenham at the battle of New Orleans, and never feared "Chickasaw, Chickasaw, Seminoles," or Mrs. John C. Calhoun, who later betook herself to Charleston rather than be introduced to Peggy O'Neil, whom Jackson contemplated to pay society back with his own coin—which he did with interest—to avenge the criticisms passed on his own dear Rachel. For, furious at the stigma in the honor of the woman he loved, "Old Hickory" became the knight of all women who stander maligned.

Jackson was essentially the product of the wilderness, the backwoods of Tennessee, and had the instincts of the primitive man strong in his soul. Like the eagle, which seeks only one mate, he clung to Rachel Donelson until death parted them.

Sad History Began Early
Rachel had had a sad history when Jackson first arrived upon the scene of frontier adventure. She had wedded a Kentuckian, named Roberts, who treated her so unkindly that more than once she had journeyed back home to seek the protection of her parents. Colonel Donelson and his wife had migrated from Virginia to the vicinity of Nashville, taking with them their daughters, pretty girls at a time when women were scarce on the borders of civilization. So, early, Rachel became a belle. Her sister had married a blacksmith before the family left Virginia, and Donelson had owned a blast furnace near the North Carolina line. To this sister's home in Natchez, Rachel planned to flee when she heard that Roberts was coming to force her to return with him to Kentucky.

In those days of savage perils, for already Colonel Donelson had paid his life debt in battle with the Indians, it was not safe to journey alone. It was at her mother's home, where Jackson had come to board, that Rachel met him. As he was a good shot, he volunteered to travel with two other men who were acting as his escort to Natchez. This trip gave him better opportunity to study the young woman, who was persecuted by her rough husband, for Roberts would to have been not only a jealous man, but also one of revengeful nature.

When Jackson returned to Nashville after acting as one of Rachel's convey, he hung out his shingle as a practitioner of law. Then reports came that Roberts had obtained a divorce in Virginia from Rachel on the ground that she had deserted his home. Kentucky was a part of the Old Dominion, and all legal matters had to be sanctioned by the seat of government far across the mountains. This accounts for the error that was to bring so much trouble. For no sooner did Jackson learn that Rachel was free than he set forth to Natchez to ask her to become his bride. Her mother would him this would be running a terrible risk, for the mood of Roberts portended the feud type, but the undaunted Jackson declared if he had a "thousand lives he would risk all of them to win Rachel Donelson Roberts for his wife."

Hastened to Be Remarried
Jackson won his bride and married her. But the story of the

divorce later proved untrue, and after two years Andrew Jackson and his wife learned their marriage was not legal. It developed that Roberts had only obtained permission of the Virginia legislature to open proceedings to annul his marriage with Rachel Donelson, in the Mercer county, Kentucky, court. Rachel sought a divorce and just as soon as the law set her free she and Jackson were remarried.

Jackson by that time had become the best known lawyer in Tennessee, was famous as a fighter and a wrestler and the finest horseman in his section of a state which has always furnished thousands to the rest of the world. People were beginning to realize that Jackson would some day become famous, as he was already acting as United States attorney for his native state. His merchandising ventures prospered, too, and he grew financially as he grew in reputation.

The whisper of scandal would not down and Jackson swore many oaths and fought many duels in Rachel's behalf. For he knew that she was unjustly accused. When the laurels of fame crowned his brow after the great victory at New Orleans, Jackson sent for Rachel to take part in the enjoyment of his triumph. She may have felt out of place at first among the grand dames of Louisiana, but they presented her a set of topaz jewels and gave her a great ball at the Exchange where Rachel danced and shuffled while the Negro daddlers scraped their bows, and sang lustily. And Rachel Jackson, in her home-spun petticoat, astonished even the French with her dancing ability. Her very naturalness and utter lack of self-consciousness delighted the dwellers of Dauphine, Charles and Bourbon streets, so that the New Orleans trip was declared a great success.

But news of the affair spread even to Boston. Old Hickory had also shaken a nimble foot for the gaunt and given more to riding and fighting than dancing, contemporaries say he was no mean hand at cutting the "figure wing" or doing "turkey in the straw" as the jazz of that era was called.

Killed by Gossip
The years passed, and when news of her husband's elevation to the presidency reached the Hermitage, Mrs. Jackson, after much persuasion set forth to Nashville to obtain a wardrobe in which to preside as first lady of the land—an honor she by no means coveted. Having always lived in seclusion, Rachel felt that Pensacola, New Orleans and Washington were all "modern Babels," filled with sin and snares for the unwary. But her husband's wish was her law, so she planned to accompany him, and to dress as befitting her high station.

While seated in the back parlor of a Nashville hotel, Rachel overheard herself discussed and dissected as the "scarlet woman" who had hampered the great man's progress to fame, and to her horrified ears came the hush of scandalous rumors which fairly filled her soul with mortification. Her servants said she returned home looking stunned, and she never revived. In a few days she died, crushed by a sense of wrongs she had never committed.

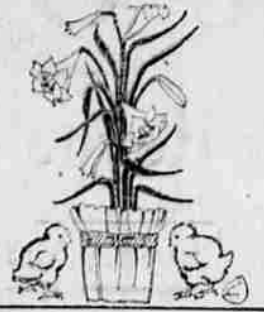
The community love testimony to her blameless life. Possessors who had sold her their wares and other visitors carried accounts of her kindness and boundless hospitality all over the country.

Such was the inner life of a woman whom a great soldier, that was twice president, married twice and loved always.

Colonel Stuart Handles Penney Remodeling Work
A sketch of "Colonel" Stuart, senior member of the firm of H. E. Stuart & Sons, general contractors, who handled the remodeling work on the new J. C. Penney store. Although over seventy years of age, Colonel Stuart actively supervised the alteration of the new store.

General Motors Sales Increase For February
Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., president of General Motors Corporation, makes the following statement: "Retail sales by General Motors dealers to consumers in February were 122,929 cars. This compares with 107,923 for February 1927, a gain of 36,006 cars, or 33.4 per cent. Gains by practically all car divisions have contributed to this result. In February sales by General Motors divisions totaled 189,232 cars. This compares with 124,426 for the corresponding month a year ago, a gain of 64,806 units, or 52.1 per cent."

Grand Opening and Style Show
Monday, March 26
8 p. m.
Everybody Welcome



BUYING
MOST
WE
BUY
FOR LESS

J.C. PENNEY CO.
A NATION-WIDE INSTITUTION

"where savings are greatest"

Everything New! For the Easter Promenade

SELLING
• MOST
WE SELL
FOR
LESS

Grand Opening and Style Show
Monday, March 26
8 p. m.
Public Cordially Invited



Frocks in Approved Spring Styles
To Wear Right Now! See Our Low Prices!

Every day brings fresh new frocks to this store—frocks that you want to wear right now. You must see them to appreciate the gay colors and the distinctly different styles—even at these modest prices.



Our Economical Prices Are

\$6.90 and \$9.90

Sizes for Women and Misses

A score of frocks to meet many early Spring needs—buy them to wear to the office and for many daytime occasions.

Tailored Suits
Are Smart for Spring

The suit with the hip-length jacket is modish as an early Spring costume.

Women
Misses
Juniors

14.75

Tweed—
Twill

The two popular fabrics—in single or double breasted style.

Blouses

Tailored blouses for suits are favorites for Spring. We have a complete range in both short or long sleeves. Silk or cotton. Colors.

\$1.98 to \$3.98

Spring Coats of Charm

Are Offered At "Your" Price In This Selection

Wise women know that extravagance never pays—but that excellent materials and approved styles are found here at a fair price always! These new coats are charming examples of prevailing modes.

Popular Materials Authentic Styles

The kind of coat you will be proud to wear—for Easter and all spring and summer—awaits your selection.

\$19.75

Slim, tailored coats are useful and smart—sometimes trimmed with fur. Dress coats of many kinds will fit into your wardrobe.

Coats for Women, Misses and Juniors

Accessories

For Your
Easter Costume

**Handbags
Silk Hosiery
Gloves
Scarfs**

All Silk Hose

Is Necessary to Smartness

One number has a short, little top, two others are silk to the top in service and each a foot in height. Splendid hose for \$1.49



SPRING FOOTWEAR

Milady's Spring outfit is not complete without new and stylish footwear. Our complete stock of Straps and Pumps developed in the season's favorite leathers offers an opportunity to be modishly attired at substantial savings.

\$2.98 to \$6.90

Plain and Fancy Sweaters

Assume An Important Place

In warm weather there are many occasions to wear a smart sweater—especially when they are so very modish and distinctly new.

\$2.98 to \$5.90

Slip-ons—Cardigans

"V" and crew neck slip-ons are popular—also cardigan coat types that can be worn over another sweater or over a frock. You will surely want one—or two!

An Easter Hat
New Ones Are Here

You must be sure to have a smart new hat to greet the Spring—see ours for \$2.98



"Jaciell"
For the Complexion of Youth

Hundreds of women are now using "Jaciell"—a new line of high quality toilettries. The most fastidious will find them satisfactory. A complete line from 19c to 98c

19c to 98c

Everything's Ready for EASTER Shopping

A Smart Bandeau
Ideal for Youthful Figures

This smooth-fitting rayon bandeau fastens in the back. Sizes 30 to 40. 79c



Rayon Lingerie

In Practical Tailored Styles

The kind of neatly fitting undergarments that women and misses demand.

Practical! Dainty! Pastel shades of fine quality rayon fashion ideal lingerie.

Chemise, 98c
Bloomers, 98c
Vests, 49c

Our Selling Policy Is This:

We hold no so-called sales of any kind nor do we name comparative prices of any kind. Goods are always sold at the lowest possible prices consistent with prevailing market conditions, and when the price of some article is marked down to its replacement value, the former price is never mentioned. We aim to give the same fair, square treatment to you every day.

J.C. Penney Co.

Dressing Up for Easter
Is a Thrill for Girls of All Ages

Coats have never been smarter—nor more attractively priced! Double-breasted tailored styles, scarf collars, contrasting color trimming—the materials are of splendid quality—the colors and styles will please every girl.

Sizes 2 to 6
\$4.98 and \$6.90
Sizes 7 to 10
\$6.90 and \$9.90
Sizes 11 to 16
\$9.90 and \$12.75



Scarfs

The triangler or throw scarf is decidedly chic. Air brush tints and hand blocked patterns in a variety of colorful shades will be found reasonably priced here. Fashionable with suit, frock or coat.

98c to \$1.98

A New Spring Marathon
"The Playboy" for Young Men

This new and lighter weight is just right for early Spring wear; especially smart with the brim snapped down; can be worn turned up if desired.

With the new narrower band, so much in demand with young men. Well made throat. An exceptional value at the moderate price of—

\$3.98



Notice!

Our Store will remain closed during business hours, Monday to prepare for our

GRAND OPENING and STYLE SHOW

Footwear For Men

All Leather Shoes for dress in tan and black. Our new line of Spring Oxfords is very complete. Narrow and wide widths. Our shoes are made to our own specifications to assure QUALITY, VALUE and STYLE. Quantity buying enables us to offer values without equal. Visit our shoe section and SAVE.

\$3.49 to \$9.90

Four-In-Hand Ties for Men

Easter neckwear in great variety. Smart, hand-made, full cut ties in newest bias stripes, plaids and checks. Unusual patterns you don't meet every day. Low priced too, at—

98c

Silk Hose For Men

Easter socks of pure thread silk with mercerized top and sole, featuring our new Tu-Toe double strength toe. In black and newest colors for Spring. Exceptional values at—

49c

Spring Suits For Men

Two, and three, button models are the season's most favored styles. Tans and greys predominate in the more youthful types. We have plenty of conservative styles for older men. Dress up for the Easter season at prices that fit your pocketbook. Sizes 35 to 50. Stouts, slims, stubs and regulars.

\$14.75 to \$34.75

It's Time to Buy the Family's Easter Apparel