VOL. XXX. NO. 24.

ELLICOTT CITY, MD., SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1899.

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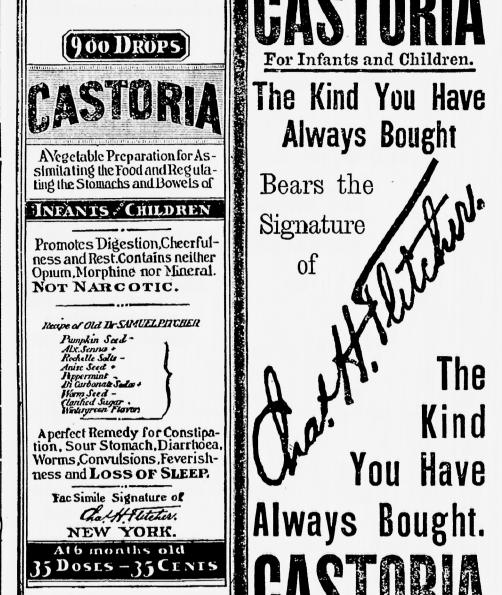
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His Aunt's Companion

That was the advertisement that appeared in a newspaper of a rainy Monday norning in November, 18—. Glenville was nothing more than a little ountry settlement, with a red brick town hall and a labyrinth of narrow streets which seemed to have been laid out with special reference to the bewilderment of any chance passer who might find himself nvolved in their maze.

Mr. Reginald Chillingfield, who had een out for a walk in the street, was met on the threshold of the hotel by the bootboy, who said: "Oh, please, sir, there's a lot of 'em all -askin for you." "A lot of what?" demanded Mr. Chill-

ngfield. Reginald Chillingfield was tall and lender and handsome, with bright blue ryes and a straight nose, which latter feature he rubbed as he stood staring at Mike Updown. ertisement.

The array of feminine faces, all expectantly turned toward him, was enough to we the stoutest bachelor heart, and Regnald Chillingfield closed the parlor door with a bang. "Jones," said he to his familiar friend, who had just lighted a cigar in the read-ng room, "what shall I do?"

"In respect to what?" "My Aunt Polly's companion. There's a dozen of 'em there, apparently all ages from 16 to 60. My Aunt Polly doesn't vant 12 companions. "Have 'em admitted one by one," suggested Jones, and on this hint Mr. Chillngfield promptly acted.

'You sit and pretend to be reading the newspaper," whispered Chillingfield, and if you like the applicant's looks, ough; if you don't, crackle the news-Dear me, my shirt collar is wet dready. My face is burning. Why could not Aunt Polly have hunted up her own companion? Yes, Mike, all ready. Ask ne of the ladies to walk in.' And, with a grin, Mike announced:

"Miss Zerinah Hall." Miss Hall was tall, scant haired and spectacled, in a robe of gingham and a "I am seeking a situation, young man, she said, "not from necessity, but because in middle life one feels the lack of companionship. I hope the elderly lady mentioned in the advertisement is a church

Crackle, crackle! went the newspaper Chillingfield glanced guiltily at his friend. "No, she's not-that is-I think perhaps a younger person— You did not say how old you were, Miss Hall." Miss Zerinah went out, closing the door behind her with a bang.

Mrs. Hawkesbury, the next candidate. was a clairyovant and spiritualist. "I think I could amuse the old lady with foretelling the future," said she. 'That was the way I did at my three last situations.

Jones, my dear fellow, don't rustle that paper so vehemently. Did you say three? low did you happen to leave those situa "The visitation of Providence, sir,"

said Mrs. Hawkesbury. "They all diedthe respected ladies whom it was once my duty and my pleasure to"-The next was too deaf, the next too fleshy, the third was unwilling to live with any lady who did not keep a man servant, the fourth wanted too high a salary-so on, ad infinitum, until the newspaper was fairly crackled to pieces. Until at length there was, so to speak, a "tie" between the last two candidates.

Ruth Coxe was just 19, pretty as a sweet pea blossom and ready to undertake any description of service to escape from her stepmother and nine turbulent half broth-Helen Howard was a queenly young wo

man of five and twenty, who read like Mrs. Scott-Siddons, sang delicious Scotch ballads and frankly owned that she need Mr. Jones coughed himself purple in the face over both of them.

"You couldn't do better, Reginald," said he, "than to take"— "Which one?" "Both!" "But you must remember that I have

only got one Aunt Polly. A choice must "Toss up a copper. "You irreverent villain!" "Draw cuts, then. Look. I write Helen' on one, 'Ruth' on the other.

Presto! Change! Now draw. Ruth ha So Mr. Reginald Chillingfield took Ruth Coxe home with him to the domiciliary abode of his Aunt Polly by evening train, eaving Helen Howard sad and quiet. "You are disappointed," said he. wish I could have engaged you both." "Yes," said Helen, "I am disappointed,

I confess. Life is hard and stern to me. Reginald Chillingfield thought over her words. They haunted him, and not only her words, but the garnet brown shadows of her eyes, and a week afterward he went back to Glenville. "Yes, Miss Howard is at home," said the shabby maid of all work at the third rate boarding house where Miss Howard

And Mr. Chillingfield walked in, to find Miss Howard tete-a-tete with Mr. Jones. "Hello!" cried Jones. "Who would ever have thought of seeing you?" "I might say the same," laughingly retorted Chillingfield, as he took Miss How-"But I have news for you,

"I have heard of an excellent situation near my aunt's-an invalid lady, whose "Hang the invalid lady and her hus

band!" interposed Jones. "I was just going to write you about it, old boy. Wo are to be married tomorrow. "No!" cried Reginald. "Then I'll stay to the wedding. But"-"Isn't it rather a sudden arrangement?

"Life is full of sudden things," said Jones philosophically. "Helen is willing to run the risk." And so the troublesome question was settled satisfactorily to all parties.-New

His Wedding Fee In Eggs.

A diminutive couple that ought to have been spanked and sent home were married at Stanford by a preacher, who received 65 cents and two dozen eggs for his services. The groom was about 15 years of age and the bride a little over 12, wearing a dress too short by two inches to reach her knees. It looked like mockery of marriage. After the ceremony they drove their wagon up in a fence corner in the outskirts of town and proceeded to dine, a basket of victuals having been brought along to save the unnecessary investment of 5 cents in cheese and crackers. I happened to drive by with two friends while this bridal dinner was in progress, and the show was well of a term of Arable origin, probably be worth the price of admission. Adam and Eve were never as happy in the Garden | chief branches of the Levites, part of of Eden as that couple I saw in the fence whom were dispersed with the lost tribe corner .- Harrodsburg (Ky.) Sayings.

HOMESICKNESSINTHE ARMY The Volunteer's Malady That Is the Hardest to Handle. It is the weariness of the heart which

is today most feared by the surgeons of the American army in the Philippines; the hope failure for innumerable men of the army in Cuba after whose names eventually appears the entry, "Died, maarial fever." Physicians use the technical name

'nostalgia" in describing the disease, but rarely care to attribute a death to it because of its many still unknown phases and unstudied symptoms. The dictionary definition of this word is: "Morbid longing to return to one's nome or native country; homesickness, especially in its severe forms, producing

derangement of mental and physical functions." Writers for medical journals say that the German army is more subject to nostalgia than any other in existence; that the German race possesses the strongest tendency to melancholia when

ong separated from familiar scenes.

That a man can die from homesickness seems incredible, perhaps. Yet a surgeon of the regular army whose experience in Cuba was a varied one told me that after the volunteers were once in Cuba and in action the gravest danger which confronted the men was the "funk" resulting from the irresistible longing for the sight of the old home and the glimpse of faces near and dear. My friend of the Thirteenth Minnesota in Manila confirms

this in the lines: "The heat bothers some, and the roads are not blooming fine, but we could not have a finer set of officers nor be treated better for men who came out here to not able to get at it) is that they know spring has come in the home country, and every man of them wants to hear a bluebird whistle and hear the call of the meadow lark. The result of this is that the fellows get a tugging at their hearts that feels like a big lump, and they go down in a heap. They don't seem sick, but they just talk and think all the time of home, and a larruping wouldn't do them a bit of good."

That's nostalgia. The cure for the disease is great exertion of will power, liberal use of water internally and externally and diversion of the mind from the painful thoughts. The cure is much easier prescribed than practiced. There is another remedy than this, though, which physicians readily favor when practicable—see home.—Chicago Times-Herald

SENATOR DEPEW'S SEAT. t Will Be Just at the Right of th

Presiding Officer. Channey Depew will probably feel much at home in the senate. It has been announced that a seat has already been selected for him, and its location has been given, but the important significance of the selection has not been remarked. The greatest delicacy and regard for the fitness of things is always observed in matters pertaining to the arrangements of the senate.

The habits of many dinners cling lovingly about the new senator from New York. If he had been given a remote seat in the senate chamber, along the outer edge or grouped with the common assemblage, he would have felt out of place. The seat of honor is always his at table. There is no seat of honor in the senate-or all are seats of honor-but long continued custom has its influence upon the mind, and he was given a seat, therefore, just at the right of the presiding officer, where he is sure to feel at

This delicacy of consideration was car ried even further. He was surrounded by a group of the most gifted and brilliant talkers in the senate, among whom he will shine forth as a star of most peculiar brilliancy. Assembled about him will be Foraker, Spooner, Beveridge and Kean, and the little triangular section at the right of the vice president will be known as the temple of eloquence. Spooner and Foraker were regarded as the best speakers in the senate during the last congress. Beveridge's reputation as an orator is national, and he sailed into the senate on the wings of eloquence by a quicker flight than Depew Kean is an elegant, smooth and poetic talker, who charms by the softness of his speech, elevates by his poetic fancy and thrills by an outburst of eloquence at the close. Though he and Beveridge, as well as Depew, will, on the assembling of congress, appear for the first time in the senate, they will not come as strangers. With such environments Depew's time in the senate promises to pass as agreeably as an endless round of dinners all at

the speech making period of the repast.-Washington Star. The Sign Fooled Him. "I tuk two gals down street last night o git 'em some ice cream," said George Washington Snowball, "but when I got down I 'mos' had a fit of heart disease." "What was the trouble? Did they ask for a second helping?" "Secon helpin nothin. Dey didn't eben git de first helpin." "What was the reason? Did you discover that you had left your money at "No, sah; dat wasn't what was de matter at all. We went down street jus' as happy as you please, sah, one gal on each arm, you know, an when we got in sight I fought I should drap dead."

ob de ice cream saloon I read dat sign, an "What did the sign say?" "It said, 'Ice cream, \$1.25 a gal.' I had two gals, you know, besides mawself, an I hadn't no pocket full of money. Say, suffice it to say that when they emerged mister? "Well? "Do you fink one ob dem trustses has

got hold ob de ice cream business?"--Harper's Bazar.

The English artist, Val Princed, is an

enthusiastic fisherman, and often takes his friends out with him on salt water. A short time ago he went out to fish in Penvensey bay with a young friend of his who was an indifferent sailor. For a time all went well, but presently the tyro felt qualms of the approaching mal-demer. Struggle as bravely as he did against it, he could not overcome the feeling of nausea, and at last he was conquered. In fact, so severe was the attack that he be came frantic. Presently he gasped, "For goodness' sake, fetch a cab and take me home!" At the time the boat was three miles from the shore. However, the unhappy victim was brought to land in a state of semi collapse and assisted to bed. -Pittsburg Dispatch.

McKinley and Alger. An English ethnologist says that the name McKinley is of Hebrew origin. "Mac" is Scottish for the Hebrew word "Ben," "son." Kinley, originally "Kopley," is a compound of the Hebrew "Cohen," priest, and "Levi," the Levite. Alger, whose name's first syllable is recognized by any one that ever looked into his dictionary for the interpretation longs to the Ger-Shornites, one of the

Anonymous ?

this, old man?" The speaker stood in an admiring attitude before the picture of a young girl, while the one questioned answered briefly, "My sister."
"Oh, I say, Paul, that won't do! We don't put our sisters' pictures in frames

like that." "Don't we? Well, I do. Oh, hang it, Burt, don't you see that I'm busy? I can't work while your tongue is wagging. Get out of here now, and if you won't show your face here again today you shall spend the month of July with me at my home, and then you shall judge for yourself whether that frame is too good for my sister's picture." And Paul Reynolds gave his chum a good natured push toward the

"Do you mean that? Hurrah! Why, that would be worth a lifetime of banishment-no offense to you, old fellow!" and Burton Smith mildly expressed his delight by turning somersaults across the room, walking back on his hands, then, bringing his feet to the floor, he shot upward, and, catching hold of a bar above his head, he drew himself up and whirled around the bar with the proficiency of an acrobat, dropping to the floor with a shout

of overflowing mirth. "Get out of this; you rattlehead!" And, having him outside, Paul shut the door in his face and heard him go down stairs fight and not to play marbles. What is at a breakneek pace, which brought the troubling many of the boys (and we are good old landlady to the door in alarm, expecting to find somebody at the bottom with a broken neck. "Sakes alive! That Mr. Smith again!

> she exclaimed. Burton's walk home had a tendency to quiet his hilarity, but that face was still before him, and, after sitting in deep thought for an hour, he sprang up with "I'll do it, by Jove! She can't feel deeply offended anyway, and I'll sign only

a part of my name. Better for the future's sake to be on the safe side. There, that'll do, I think." Belle Reynolds stood with an open letter in her hand, and her eves flashed angrily as she spoke her thoughts aloud. Soft headed idiot! Heard of me through friend, indeed! This strang Then something like the truth swept

brough her mind, and her fun loving

spirit reasserted itself, and, going to her

Mr. Charles Burt: Your most extraordinary letter savors strongly of the wedding bells class, but you forgot to state whether your motive was for "pleasure, pastime or with a view to matrinony." Whatever your object may be, permit me to say that you are guilty of gross imper inence. My friend, Matilda Brindle, would call you "sassy." Are you aware, sir, of the risk you incur by asking to correspond with a spinster of the tender age of 37? Let me enlighten you. I will

ionestly describe the picture which my mir ror reflects, and then perhaps you will con gratulate yourself on having found a person so frank as myself. My reddish yellow hair, already thin on top, hangs in ringlets about my full sized ears; my freckled nose is elevated by nature to a high degree, my teeth are conspicuous by the absence of not a few, and my greenish gray eyes would be my one re deeming feature if I were not cross eyed. commanding. My joints are too large to allow my wearing rings, so don't send any. I am strong minded woman, sir, so think well be fore you further commit yourself. B. R.

When Burton Smith received this mock ing epistle, he thrust both hands into hi trousers pockets and stood gazing at his feet with a most dejected air. No acre batic performances now. Oh, no! N occasion for them. But as the humor of the whole affair struck him he threw back his head and laughed-he roared. "The little minx! Serves me right though! But how foolish she could make a fellow feel. Smith, you're an ass!" The June days passed, the eagerly anticipated vacation drew near, and at last

Paul Reynolds and Burton Smith found themselves in the quaint old town of Cas tone, where they were happily welcomed. At first Burton rather stood in awe of beautiful Belle Reynolds. Her lovely face and graceful figure won universal admira tion, and her sweet disposition endeared her to all. Burton Smith proved to be no exception. Their mutual love for all kinds of outdoor sports threw them together constantly, and they became firm friends. Then as the time for his depar ture drew near he began to realize that in leaving Belle Reynolds behind he was leaving all that had made life so bright for him during the last few weeks. Yet he felt that there was no reason why he, comparative stranger, should claim more than the friendship accorded him. He would undoubtedly have gone back to business with his love untold had he not unexpectedly come upon Belle in the little vine covered summer house one morning with a woebegone expression and traces of tears upon her fair face. She

hastily explained that she had been indulging in a fit of loneliness at the thought of her brother's return, but the look and blush which accompanied her words gave him new courage, and, taking both her hands in his, he asked: "May I hope, Belle, that you will miss me a little, too, when I am gone? Forgive me for speaking so soon, but you have become dear to me, and I am conceited enough to believe that you like me. Tell me, darling, that you can in time

care for me, and I will try to be worthy of your dear love. Whatever her answer may have been from their secluded nook an hour later their faces bore evidences of their new found happiness. "By the way, Belle, I have not yet met

your friend, Matilda Brindle. Does she not live in Castone?" Belle stopped short in her walk and looked at him. "Then you are"-"Charles Burton Smith, at your serv ice," and he made a profound bow just in time to receive a sound box on the ear, administered by the little beauty beside him. Then she fled precipitately.-Bos-

The Decisive Test. "Your friend has a wonderful mem-"Maryelous!" "Never fails him." "I don't know about that. I never saw him on the witness stand."-Washington

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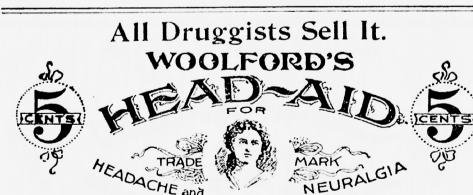
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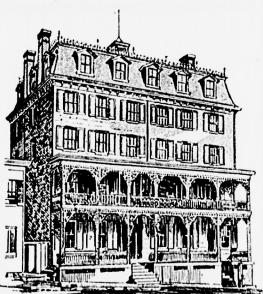
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