

## PICTURE OF AN IDEAL CITY.

The Houses of a "City Beautiful" — A Higher Mode of Living.

"It is a very pleasant picture," I remarked as my guide paused; "but I am surprised to see no grand private mansions. Where do your wealthy reside?"

"What matters it where they reside?" answered my guide; "are not the wealthy sumptuously housed in all cities and in all lands? I am not asking you to look at ostentation and splendor, for these things are everywhere, but on the beauty that may come to the poor man's door and be enjoyed by every citizen, however little he may be endowed with riches."

"Now look and tell me what you see," said my guide, pausing on one of the wide avenues of the city.

"A long stretch of embowered cottages," I answered. "In what do they differ?" I asked, "from similar homes in all American cities?"

"In little," replied my guide, "except that in our City Beautiful these charming homes are not in one avenue alone, for the occupancy of a fortunate few, but they are everywhere, some less spacious than others, but always there is a neat, tasteful, healthy and charming cottage for every man who is not an idler and a vagabond. There are no slums in our city. There is no squalor."

"The aspects of our city encourage a higher mode of living, and by requiring that the poorest man's house shall have requisite space, that he shall have an abundance of fresh air and pure water, and by insisting that his public acts shall be cleanly and with a regard to decency and the rights of others, we set him, as it were, on the road to self-respect and seemly living."

"You will observe," said my guide, "that the architecture of these long rows of cottages and villas is almost severe. The lines are very good, the proportions harmonious, the colors agreeable, and the general effect eminently pleasing; but mere ornamentation is excluded almost altogether. The characteristic of most modern houses, especially of suburban houses, is a great deal of cheap and vulgar ostentation. Filigree work is the rule of these houses. The cornices are supported by fancy scroll-work brackets, the roofs of the piazzas and the porches are decorated with scalloped attachments, and wherever there is an opportunity some cheap device of the carver is nailed on. There is no beauty in pretense of any kind, and when the pretense is transparently false, when it consists of meaningless and vulgar display, it excites simply feelings of repulsion."

"It has been necessary to persistently enforce this elementary principle upon our people, and now it is rarely that one sees those displays of toy-house architecture that are to be found elsewhere in our country. Look at those chimneys, single or in clusters, that stretch far down the vista; each of them is of brick and stone, gracefully broken by skillful and artistic uses of their material. They are ornamental, but the ornament is a durable part of themselves and the effect is good. Look at the pointed gables, at the charmingly curved roof lines. We have not imported hideous imitations of the mansard roof, and we know very well that a long row of flat roofs, with a straight, unbroken cornice line, is a monstrosity that could only have birth in a mind whose opaque darkness no ray of artistic light had ever entered.—O. B. Bunce, in Chicago Times.

## Drawing the Line.

Rastus—Mastah Smif, I wan's ter ax yo' a question.

Mr. Smith—All right, Rastus.

Rastus—I's gwine ter git married nex' week, an' I wan't ter know what am de kerrect thing about payin' de minister. Yo' see, Mastah Smif, de lady 'pon whom I'se bout to confer de honah ob my han' am very high-toned in her dep'nt, sah, an' I wudden wan' ter do nuffin' what wuzzent in de lates' style. What I wan' ter know is, should I han' de minister de money myself, sah, or dispute a fr'en' ter do it fo' me?

Mr. Smith—I see; anybody going to stand up with you, Rastus?

Rastus—Yes, sah; Sam Johnsing am ter be my bes' man.

Mr. Smith—Well, put the money in an envelope, and let Sam hand it to the min' ter.

Rastus—What! let Sam Johnsing handle dat money? No, sah.

Mr. Smith—Why not?

Rastus—Cos I wuddent da' resk it. I has de utmos' confidence in Sam as a gemmen, sah. Sam am a good frien' of mine, and he am great ladies' man, an' werry popler in sassciety and wif de fa'r sex, an' ebbery thing ob dat so't, sah; but if I should let him handle dat dollar bill, de minister would nebbet see it, 'deed he wuddent. I has de utmos' confidence in Sam, Mastah Smif, 'cept when it comes ter wealth. Sam ain't use ter wealth.—*Life.*

## A Great Strike.

Among the 150 kinds of Cloth Bound Dollar Volumes given away by the Rochester (N. Y.) *American Rural Home* for every \$1 subscription to that great 8-page, 48-col., 16-year-old weekly (all 5x7 inches, from 300 to 900 pages, bound in cloth) are:

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## The Slums of Berlin.

The slums of London and Paris are bad enough, but it appears that the slums of Berlin are, if possible, worse. *Das Echo* has published some interesting details on the subject. There are about 40,000 houses in the Prussian capital. A small number are inhabited by one or two families, but the great majority are divided into several distinct lodgings. Two thousand five hundred contain from 16 to 20 lodgings, 20,000 from 20 to 30 lodgings, and 10,000 over 30 lodgings each. Seventy-five thousand of these lodgings are composed of one room only, and inhabited by no fewer than 270,000 persons, which is an average of nearly four persons per room; 75,000 other lodgings are composed of two rooms, and occupied by 360,000 inhabitants, while the remaining 30,000 lodgings are formed of three rooms, inhabited by 140,000 people. These figures will suffice to show the promiscuous way in which the masses of the Berlin population are lodged. The houses in the poor quarters, often five or six stories high, are built so close to one another that they are nearly totally devoid of both light and air.

Mr. G. E. Reardon, Baltimore, Md., Commissioner of Deeds for all the States, suffered for a long time with rheumatism, which yielded promptly to St. Jacobs Oil.

## Bret Harte's Way.

It will be observed by those who are solicitous about the present tendencies of American fiction, as manifested in the work of a school which is just now somewhat prolific, that here is a distinguished American novelist who has imagination, and is not afraid to use it; who allows his people to develop their own characters and words; who doesn't travel through miles of explanation, criticism, and analysis in order to achieve inches of narrative movement; who doesn't mount the platform, like the man with a long stick at the panorama, and bore the audience to death; who had rather use one word than forty, if he has the right word handy; and who had rather stop short than become tedious.

What in the name of common sense is the use in subjecting the people of fiction, primarily meant for our entertainment, to a process of psychological analysis more rigid and minute than we dream of applying to real people whom we know and like or hate our whole lives long?—*New York Sun.*

Diphtheria is frequently the result of a neglected sore throat, which can be cured by a single bottle of Red Star Cough Cure. Price, twenty-five cents a bottle.

## So They Will Wed.

"Alas! Estelle," sighed Hubert, "I fear we can never marry. I love you devotedly, but I could never think of asking you to share my poverty."

"But, Hubert," said the dear girl, fondly, "poverty would be happiness if we only were together. What do I care for wealth so long as I have you? I can do without luxuries if only I have your love. Bread and cheese and kisses are enough for me. I ask for nothing more."

"Really?" asked Hubert, excitedly, looking fondly down into her eyes.

"Really," she answered, firmly, looking up into his with a tender smile.

"Then, by Jinks!" exclaimed Hubert, "I'll borrow a dollar and get the license this very afternoon. Your father ought to be willing to stand the bread and cheese, and I feel competent to provide the kisses."—*Somerville Journal.*

A Tried Remedy for Biliousness.

Those who suffer from disorder or inaction of the liver will never get the upper hand of the unruly organ so long as they use such irrational remedies as blue pill, calomel, and podophyllin. But from the tried and popular medicine, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, they may expect relief with a certainty of obtaining it. The influence of the Bitters upon the biliary gland is direct, powerful, and speedily felt. The relief afforded is not spasmodic, but complete and permanent. The sallowness of the skin, furrowed appearance of the tongue, indigestion, costiveness, headache, nausea, pains through the right side and shoulder, in fact every accompaniment of the obstinate complaint, are entirely and promptly removed by a course of this inestimable medicine, in behalf of which testimony is constantly emanating from every quarter, and from all classes of society.

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APOSTROPHE to the boarding house chicken—"Hens, horrible shadow hens!"—*Boston Commercial Bulletin.*

MANY imitators, but no equal, has Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy.

"THERE is no such word as fall," except for the man who does not advertise.

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If artesian well-borers could begin at the bottom and bore up, fewer mistakes would be made.—*New Orleans Picayune.*

## How to Save Money,

And we might also say—time and pain as well, in our advice to good housekeepers and ladies generally. The great necessity existing always to have a perfectly safe remedy convenient for the relief and prompt cure of the ailments peculiar to woman—functional irregularity, constant pains, and all the symptoms attendant upon uterine disorders—induces us to recommend strongly and unequivocally Dr. Pierce's "Favorite" Prescription—woman's best friend. It will save money.

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