

A LITTLE LESSON IN ADVERSITY.

The fates were kind and at last I found a white man who in the old confederacy days had often been to the settlement, knew the Africans well and, in fact, at a certain time had had them under his control as a confederate officer.

A drive of half a dozen miles over an elevated plank road and through a wilderness of trees and water brought us out to the clay hills by the Alabama river.

There was a cluster of sawmills close by in the "pine woods" and beyond these many negro cabins in rows. But their occupants were the common negroes, working in the mills and of recent arrival. It was little they knew of the real "Africans" as distinguished from themselves. After much inquiry and much running about the pines, the pathetic-looking confederate breast-works that still stretch sullenly for a mile and more through the woods, we came to a few African houses. They were only dilapidated cabins, but surrounded with truck gardens and rose bushes.

Hardly a dozen of the old Clotilde's victims are alive, though numbers of their children live near the settlement and have intermarried with the common negro. Few of the captured ones had been more than 20 at the time of their enslavement and all remembered the horrible details as if they had been experiences of a recent time. They were more stalwart in appearance and of finer physique than the American negro whose ancestors have been long in bondage. Their eyes were brighter, too; their voices even softer and more melodious.—Harper's Magazine.

CRABB'S HILL SAMARITAN.

The young man whose automobile was slightly out of order knocked at the door of the long, low farmhouse which stood, the only house for two miles, at the foot of Crabb's Hill.

"We need a little help and a tool I have left behind, by some oversight," said the young man, when his knock was answered. "Is there anybody in this region who has an automobile?"

A lean man with a humorous face looked at him with a good deal of interest, and then threw the door wide open.

"You'd better let the young woman come in out of the sun while we talker," he said, hospitably. "I don't know as there's any automobiles owned round here, but living alone in this spot at the foot of Crabb's as I do, and so many folks riding over from the towns beyond, I've found it wise to keep some considerable automobile gear on hand. We'll step out to the shed, and you can make your selection."

"There's something else," said the young man, when the automobile was once more ready for action. "Can you tell me the nearest place for us to get a good dinner? Is there any inn within a few miles?"

"Not that I know of," said the lean man, stroking his jaw thoughtfully. "But living at the foot of Crabb's as I do, and so many driving or riding by, I've found it wise to keep a good supply of berries and fruit in their season, eggs and milk, and I can cook brook-trout as well as most if you want to try the results. My potatoes aren't far behind the best."

At the end of a simple but excellent meal the young man rose, hesitated, looked at the young woman, and then stepped close to his host.

"There's one more thing I'll ask you," he said, in a low tone. "We want to find a minister. We're both of age, with nobody to consider but ourselves, but we don't like the conventional wedding, so we started off this morning. I've got the license—we—"

His voice trailed off as the lean man stepped to a small table and took from it a book.

"I haven't had a church for fifteen years," he said, "but I studied; thought I had a call; and I was ordained and settled over a parish before I found out I wasn't cut out for a preacher. But living here at the foot of Crabb's as I do, I've found it best to keep my hand in with some of my duties."

He paused, and a slow smile lighted his face.

"I suspected how 'twas from the first," he said. "You see, living at the foot of Crabb's as I do, I've seen a good many of you."—Youth's Companion.

He, Too, Was Sharp.

A party of English tourists, coming upon an old Highland shepherd, thought to have a little fun at his expense, says the author of "National Humor," and began by asking him if he enjoyed the scenery.

"I suppose," said one, "that you can see a great distance from here on a clear day?"

"Oh, yes, gentlemen, a great distance, indeed."

"I suppose, now, on a clear day," said another, "you could see as far as London?"

"Aye," replied the shepherd, "and farther than London."

"As far as America and Madagascar, I should think," said another, with a wink to his companions.

"Aye, to be sure, and farther, too," said the shepherd. "Farther than America! Well, now, old man, tell us how far you can see."

"Well, if the night is clear, gentlemen, you will see from this ahl the way to the moon."

Provident.

"The provident wife lays up something for a stormy day," remarked the observer of events and things; "her pin money may come in very handy, to pay her divorce lawyer."—Yonkers Statesman.

Popular Science.

Prof. John Trowbridge has developed in his laboratory a telephone relay based on a new principle, and avoiding, it is said, the difficulties hitherto encountered in applying a relay to amplify the signals on long-distance lines. The disturbing sounds usually introduced by amplifying devices are avoided by placing the moving part of the receiver in a balanced magnetic field, and keeping the center of the diaphragm of this part of the instrument free from pressure. The movements of the outer edge only are used to transmit the vibrations to the microphone, and the transmission is effected through metal instead of through air. The metal transmitter, as thus applied, is a new idea.

It is but a few years ago that the atmospheric gases argon and neon were discovered, and that helium, an element previously known to exist only in the sun and certain stars, was found combined with rare minerals on the earth. Since then argon and helium have been discovered in the waters of many mineral springs, and it has been shown that the helium issuing from such springs is probably derived from radium in the rocks. Quite recently Charles Moureu has informed the French Academy of his discovery of neon in twenty-two mineral springs whose waters were already known to contain argon and helium. He believes that neon is generally present in warm springs.

A very singular property of electric currents, which is not generally known, is that called electrical osmosis. An electric current flowing through the ground will cause water—slowly and in small quantity, of course—to travel along with it in the direction of the negative electrode. During some recent experiments in England water was thus caused to enter a glazed pipe set in the ground. It penetrated the walls of the pipe when electricity was passed through them. The Electrical Review suggests that this principle might be applied to supply moisture to plants. Electric currents properly arranged in the ground would collect water dispersed through the soil and condense it round the roots.

Prof. K. Birkenhead of the Christiania University, describing in detail in the Revue Scientifique the Birkenhead-Eyde plant at Notodden, Norway, for manufacturing agricultural fertilizers directly from the nitrogen of the atmosphere with the aid of electric flames, speaks very confidently of the success of this new industry. We can now, he declares, obtain from the air covering a square mile of the earth's surface more combined nitrogen than is contained in all the nitrate beds of Chile. A larger plant than that now in operation at Notodden is to be erected immediately. Prof. Birkenhead tells an amusing story of Norwegian peasants, who, upon learning that fertilizers could now be made from the atmosphere, wrote him, begging that he would use some of the air from their part of the country, because, they said, "the quality of the air here is so extraordinarily good."

OLD IDEAL OF WOMEN.

Why It No Longer Fits the Case of the Modern Product.

In a letter D. C. Grunow intimates that the young women who have their photographs printed in various athletic attitudes do so to attract suitors and secure husbands, says the Portland Oregonian. The same reasoning convinces us that the young men who have their portraits in baseball and pugilistic costumes do so to secure wives. Mr. Grunow suggests that the girls would accomplish their purpose better if the pictures represented them making a pan of biscuits or washing up the dinner dishes. Were he advising the boys instead of their sisters, he would recommend a pose in the cornfield with a hoe and overalls.

Mr. Grunow's letter expresses a mode of thought which is almost pathetic in its impossible anachronism. Apparently he can think of a woman only as a housekeeper and cook. These were once the only occupations which she was permitted to take up, and the only ones she was fitted for; but in these days to talk as if every woman must spend her life in the kitchen is no less absurd than the belief that every man must be a farmer. This is not meant to disparage either kitchen work or farming. Both of them are useful occupations and to many persons they are agreeable, but not to everybody. Since Mr. Grunow's ideas become crystallized the sphere of woman has enlarged and assumed diversity. Many occupations are now open to her which have no relation to cooking and dishwashing. Skill in these arts would not help in the least to make her living as a typewriter or an amanuensis.

It is perhaps regrettable, but it is a fact all the same, that many women neither expect nor wish to find husbands. They expect to have their cooking done by somebody else, exactly as men do. And why not? Women not always make very good cooks. The art is not one in which they excel, nor are their attitudes in practicing it especially charming. There are many things more beautiful than a woman covered with flour making a pan of biscuits, though few things, we admit, are more useful. Cooking is man's work par excellence. The cook at the round-up is a great dignitary, endowed with power little short of arbitrary. The younger Dumas making a cabbage soup was a

spectacle to fill the bosom of the observer with joy and pride. What more sublime image did Grunow's eyes ever rest upon than the cook for a lumber camp trumpeting his slaves to their matutinal meal, even as Gabriel will rouse them on the last day? Such work is not for women. Fancy a coy maiden flogging flapjacks for a crowd of hungry cowboys. Image her, if you can, roasting a doughnut for a crew of loggers taking a drive down the Passamaquoddy, the Cowlitz of the Clatskanie.

Cooking is man's work. No wonder the girls do not relish being photographed baking pans of biscuits. It would be too masculine. They wisely prefer to keep within their proper sphere and play tennis and vote.

LOCK SYSTEM IN PANAMA.

Chagres River Caused the Adoption of This System.

The selection of the lock plan for the Panama canal was undoubtedly due to the acceptance of the dominating influence of the Chagres River, says Forum. It has been general to assume that the great difficulty of the sea-level plan lay in the immense amount of excavation it would require in the cut at Culebra. Had this been the only difficulty, it is probable that the sea-level project would have been adopted; but when it is understood that the real problem was the holding back of the entire flood waters of the Chagres, a flood of 80,000 cubic feet per second, by a dam at Gamboa, rising to a level of 180 feet above the surface of the canal, and more than a mile in length at the crest, it will be seen that the Culebra cut was a secondary matter.

In the sea-level plan the accumulated flood waters of the Chagres were to have been let off gradually through sluices into the canal itself, producing at times a current as high as four feet a second. In the lock project, the waters of the flood river merge into one great lake, with ample spillways, giving unrestricted navigation for vessels of all sizes for one-third of the whole distance across the isthmus. It is believed that the experience with the locks on the Sault Ste. Marie canal, between Lake Superior and Lake Huron, warrants the belief that the locks at Panama can be operated without material delay to navigation, the tonnage passing through the "Soo" canal now aggregating more than three times as much as that of the Suez canal.

REMEMBERED WATERLOO.

Scotch Boy Who Rejoiced Over the Victory and Died at 98.

Daniel V. Whitten, aged 98, died in Whitesboro, Oneida County, New York, the other day. He was one of the oldest men in Central

New York and up to the last his mind was clear and his other faculties well preserved. He was a Baptist and read the Bible through many times and was considered an authority on its teachings.

Mr. Whitten was born in Lanark, Scotland, November 25, 1808. Lanark is forty miles above Edinburgh, on the river Clyde. As a boy of 7 he recalled vividly the celebration of Wellington's victory over Napoleon at Waterloo. The Scotch Greys, who immortalized themselves on this memorable field, had many representatives from this part of Scotland. The boys collected great piles of coal and wood and made huge bonfires which burned two days to signalize the joy felt over the downfall of the plotters against the peace of Europe.

Mr. Whitten came to America when 15 years old, locating in Canada, where he remained two years; then he crossed over to New York and settled on a farm in Marcy, near Utica. He also lived in Whitesboro. In the two places he passed eighty-one years and was respected by all.

PERILOUS RESCUE OF DOG.

English Colliery Manager Lowered into Pit to Save Starving Collie.

An interesting story of the rescue of a dog from a deep and disused pit shaft comes from Mealsgate, Cumberland. Inspector Blake Jones, the Cumberland representative of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, was informed that a dog had been thrown down a disused pit shaft near Mealsgate. On arrival he found that the shaft of the pit, which had not been worked for thirty years, was 540 feet deep, and up to within ninety-one feet of the surface was full of water. The dog could just be discerned on a rotten wood ledge ninety feet down, and about a foot from the water.

The All Hallows colliery manager, Mr. John Walker Steele, had two beams placed across the pit mouth and a pulley fixed, and seating himself in a looped rope he was swung over the shaft and lowered through overgrowing brambles down into the darkness. He reached the unlucky dog, which was by this time starved and weak, and, placing it across his knees, was without mishap hauled back to daylight and safety. Mr. Steele was given a rousing cheer on emerging. The dog, a collie, is now in Inspector Blake Jones' possession and is doing well.—Westminster Gazette.

Uncle Eben.

"If de dollar dat you has," said Uncle Eben, "was sho' nuff as big as a dollar seems when you's broke, a man wouldn't be able to carry mo'n six bits in his pocket at a time."—Washington Star.

There can be a tremendous amount of talk without anything being accomplished.

A LITTLE LESSON IN PATRIOTISM.

John Nixon, born in Philadelphia of Irish parentage, in 1733, was one of the first of the colony of Pennsylvania to rebel against the British government.

In 1765 he signed the non-importation agreement against the stamp act, and from that time onward was foremost among the patriots who opposed the usurpations of the British crown. He was a member of the committee that

was appointed to reply to the citizens of Boston in answer to their letter carried to Philadelphia by Paul Revere, and in the same year was made a member of the committee of correspondence.

In May, 1776, Nixon had charge of the defenses of the Delaware at Fort Island and in July he was placed in charge of the guard of the city of Philadelphia.

On July 4, 1776, Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, and on July 5 decreed that it should be proclaimed in each of the United States and at the head of the army. On July 6 the committee of safety ordered that it should be read and proclaimed at the state house on July 8 at noon. John Nixon was the man chosen to read publicly for the first time the great document.

Nixon afterward took part in the battle of Princeton with Washington and spent that terrible winter at Valley Forge. Throughout the entire revolution his life and his services were ever at the call of his country.

THEY HAVE A NURSE MAN.

How One Trio of Small Boys Is Being Licked Into Shape.

A well-to-do young couple blessed with three boys ranging in age from 7 to 3 years, has originated a new household feature—the nurse man. After trying a series of nursemaids, each of whom had found the little men altogether too much of a handful, their mother engaged a man nurse.

He is described by a writer in Good Housekeeping as a well educated, refined fellow in the middle twenties, with a wife and children of his own, to whom he goes home each evening about 8 o'clock after his young charges are safe with the sandman.

His understanding of little boy nature is complete; he supplements his regular duties of feeding, bathing, exercising, etc., by teaching the lads how to build boats, draw, whittle wood in fascinating shapes, ride, drive, skate and swim.

He plays make-believe games with them, reads to them and tells them stories; and while the family were at their mountain camp last season initiated them into many a secret of bird lore and woodcraft.

His wages are, of course, generous, but his influence over the boys, who really are too strenuous a problem for their delicate mother and business burdened father, is excellent. The relationship has existed ever since the birth of the youngest child, and so far has developed none but pleasant and helpful features.

MRS. MARY BAKER EDDY.



CAREER OF MARY BAKER EDDY.

Born, Mary Baker, 1821, at Bow, N. H., of prominent New England family.

Is of Scotch-English descent and uses the MacNeill coat of arms.

The G. in her name stands for Glover, the name of her first husband. Asa G. Eddy was her second husband. She has had one son.

Well schooled in her youth and was a contributor of poems and other literary matters to magazines.

Was a Congregationalist, but always held advanced religious ideas.

Made her "discovery" of Christian Science in 1866. Began to teach it in 1867.

Founded in Boston the first Christian Science church in 1879. The "Mother Church" now has over 30,000 members.

Estimated total membership of the Scientists one million.

Blessed Relief.

He—At last we're alone. I've been hoping for this chance—

She—So have I.

He—Ah, you know, then, that I wanted to tell you that I love—

She—Yes, and I wanted to say "No" and get it over with.—Philadelphia Ledger.

What has become of the old fashioned girl who plied away and forgot to curl her hair when love didn't go to suit her?

We have noticed that a bald-headed man always has plenty of hair brushes.

PANAMA IS RICH IN RUBBER.

Interesting Method Employed in Saving the Valuable Product.

Rubber plantations may become an important element in the industrial life of Panama. The rubber tree thrives well on the isthmus. The productive life of this tree is twenty-five years, it is indigenous to the country and is found growing wild on both coasts of the republic. It will not stand high winds, so windbreaks, either natural or artificial, must be provided. It requires a well-drained, rich, loamy soil that will give plenty of moisture during the dry season and not contain stagnant water or be soggy during the wet season.

The rubber is obtained by making an incision into the bark of the tree. From the opening flows a light yellow, viscid liquid containing from 31 to 44 per cent of pure rubber. When subjected to heat this liquid evaporates, leaving the rubber as a residue. The rubber tree is generally tapped when it is eight years old. Tappings made in April and November seem to give the best results. From twenty to twenty-five trees can be tapped in a day, but the work must be done in a careful and systematic manner. The most favored method on the isthmus is to make two or three V or rectangular-shaped incisions in the lower part of the trunk and allow the sap to flow into earthen vessels, from which it is poured into a barrel and a solution of five ounces of chloride of subcarbonate of sodium is added, with sufficient water to cover. It is stirred frequently for twenty-four to thirty-six hours, when the water is drawn off by means of a faucet in the bottom of the barrel. This operation separates the rubber and is repeated until the product turns white.

The number of rubber trees in Panama is estimated at 550,000, which does not include 200,000 trees growing wild in the dense forests of Veraguas province. The India rubber exports from Panama to foreign countries during the year 1905 were estimated at 176,000 pounds, valued at \$88,000 gold. The total shipped from Colon to the United States during the same period was estimated at 40,000 pounds, valued at \$20,000 gold.

SAVING MONEY.

"I'm really learning to save money, Philip!" Mr. Barry's features mildly reflected his wife's enthusiasm. "And we owe it to Mrs. Justin, dear. I knew absolutely nothing of economy before she moved next door." "Um!" responded Mr. Barry, having difficulty with his features.

"I bought everything at Barlow's. Of course his groceries are the best, and it is handy to go only two blocks. But the big stores downtown sell so cheap!

"Mrs. Justin and I were down today, buying just groceries. I'm positive, Philip, the bills will begin to be perceptibly lower. For instance, I saved 2 cents a pound just on prunes. Mrs. Justin and I reckoned that I'd saved surely over a dollar just on this one order; and, as she says, it's the little that count. I feel just as though I'd earned that dollar for you, Philip!"

"Down-town long?" Mr. Barry studied the engraving hanging above the sofa.

"We had a lovely time—didn't get home till 4. We had luncheon right in the store. They have the daintiest tea-room!"

"Expensive?"

"Oh, no. My luncheon was only 75, and Mrs. Justin's was 90 cents. I insisted on paying hers. I thought I ought to, Philip, when she's done so much for me."

"How about car fare?"

"Just 5 cents apiece!" Mrs. Barry beamed. "Mrs. Justin said one must always subtract car fare from what one saves by buying downtown. I never should have thought of it. But I can't subtract this time. Mrs. Justin would pay my 5 cents."

"Five cents! But how did you get home?"

"Well, you see—Mrs. Barry sobered slightly—"by that time it was simply pouring, and there was a perfect mob trying to get on the street-car. Mrs. Justin had on her new blue and I wore my green suit, and—"

"Ah, you took a cab!"

"We just had to, Philip. You wouldn't have us ruin expensive dresses, would you, to save a paltry cab fare? We bargained with the cabman, and he brought us both for a dollar-fifty."

"Seventy-five—ninety — one-fifty—"

Mr. Barry produced a pencil.

But Mrs. Barry's "day of it" was beginning to tell on her nerves.

"You never appreciate my economizing," she sobbed, "and you always did have that horrid prejudice against Mrs. J. Justin!"—Youth's Companion.

Left Eye Oftentimes Stronger.

Many persons who think their sight perfect have a greater visual power in one eye than in the other. With regard to the respective power of the right and left eye a well-known optician finds that a person occupied in writing all day has, as a rule, stronger vision in the left. Writing with the right hand and his left arm resting on the table, his left eye is nearer his work and its vision more concentrated.

"He wants to be petted," we heard a man say to-day, speaking of a certain citizen. "That's true of all of us; we like it, and if we don't get it about so often, we kick and scream, and hold our breath."



MISS CRANDALL.

to the school and was allowed to enter. The town was at once in an uproar. The pupils threatened to leave unless the negro girl was ordered out.

Miss Crandall refused to insist upon the girl's departure. The town became riotous over the question. The pupils all departed. The townspeople sent a petition to the State legislature to prevent Miss Crandall from turning the school into a negro institution, as she stated her intention to do.

Before the legislature acted on the petition the negro girls were installed at the school. The legislature passed an act forbidding a school for negro nonresidents. The town boycotted the plucky woman. Finally she was arrested, imprisoned and finally convicted.

On a technicality of law she was freed. Her school and home were burned down and her project failed, but she threw herself into the abolitionist cause with the ardor of a zealot.

DEADLY GRASS OF PAMPAS.

Arrows of the Plant Stipa Often Fatal to Cattle and Sheep.

In South America, chiefly in the vast plain that extends from Patagonia up to Bahai Blanca, and also in the province of Santa Fe and in Uruguay, there are large grasses of the genus stipa which grow in the spring and whose misdeeds have been exposed by Mr. Blanchard. The grasses have a fruit about seventy-five millimeters (three inches) long made up of three parts: First, a short basal portion formed of a conical axis with a sharp point covered with sharp stiff hairs directed backward; second, a cylindrical part formed of a membrane inclosing the seeds, and, third, a shaft like that of an arrow.

All the stipas of South America have these arrows, which, when the wind blows, strike people in the face and hands and produce painful wounds. They are so abundant that they adhere to the fences, forming a continuous fringe for miles in length and giving the illusion of vast lines of foam. A man may get rid of the darts that light on his beard, hair or clothes, but if he neglects to pluck them off at once they penetrate the thickest garments and reach the skin. If an attempt is then made to withdraw them they break and the seed remains imbedded in the cloth, being removed with great difficulty. In any case, although man may contend successfully against them, animals are unable to do so and the sheep that are bred in such numbers on the pampas are their chief victims.

The darts of the stipa penetrating their eyelids and blinding them, so that being no longer able to find their way about they die of hunger and thirst. The seeds also form amid the hair of the feet and over the whole cutaneous surface a mass of sharp points which every movement pushes farther into the flesh, giving rise to ulcers, to which the animal generally succumbs.

The darts also penetrate into the salivary glands of herbivorous animals, while they accumulate in great masses. These form especially under the tongue, where they render difficult the movements of the organ and the prehension of food. The genus stipa is disseminated throughout warm and temperate regions, but is rarely found in Europe. There are about 100 species, of which four are found in France, but as these grasses are driven out by cultivation they are seldom found in gardens and fields and are not at all dangerous to cattle in France.—Translated from Revue Scientifique for Literary Digest.

LAST OF THE SLAVE SHIPS.

Some of Her "Cargo" Still to Be Found in Backwoods of Alabama.

Many things can be forgotten in forty-seven years and probably few Americans remember the story of the slave-ship Clotilde that was run into Mobile Bay and burned one dark night in 1859 and how its cargo of slaves was dumped off into the canebrakes and left, some to be picked up and sold, some to wander about and starve and some to die of homesickness.

Notwithstanding that it all happened close to Mobile, scarcely any one in this year recalls anything of the facts. Only in an old scrap book of a friend I find a single printed word about them, and when this friend's daughter had once been to the strange settlement and had described some of the people's habits of life in a charming little dialect sketch the dramatic situation seized upon me.

A burning desire possessed me to see these remarkable people face to face. A chase followed among the old negroes of Mobile, for somebody had said I could find among them a certain man who knew of the Africans. He also knew the road through the big dark swamp behind the city to their settlement.