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### A GIFTED POETESS.

PORTO RICO'S "NIGHTINGALE OF THE HILLS."

An Interesting Sketch of the Career of Lola Rodriguez de Tio, Whose Songs Have Added Fuel to the Freedom Forging Flames.

Lola Rodriguez de Tio is a woman with three reputations, each of them excellent and extraordinary. She ranks high among the world's conchologists, as a poetess she is read with keen emotion and delight wherever the Spanish language is understood, and as a public speaker she is one of the leaders of Porto Rico's thought. An exile from her native island of Porto Rico, and a refugee from Cuba, whence she fled from the wrath of Weyler with her husband, also an exile, some time before the butcher was recalled, she is living now in New York city, with Signor Tio and their daughter, a graduate in philosophy of the University of Havana. The Tio home is a charming center of the intellectual life of the Porto Rican colony and affords an admirable illustration of the hospitality for which Porto Rico is so famous. There the poetess holds court, and with her husband, formerly the editor of those outspoken papers, La Razon and La Patria, debates before her friends upon the future of the island they love so fondly.

Signora Tio, "the nightingale of the hills," as the Porto Ricans call her, was born in the Villa de las Lomas, San Yerman, in September, 1851. Her grandmother had been a writer of distinction and an admirable linguist. Her father was a doctor of laws, a scholar and an eloquent advocate with practice extending over the whole island. His example was her inheritance. She learned unconsciously from him to speak directly and agreeably and to write gracefully. He was an autonomist, though at that time the government of Porto Rico forbade the use of that word by any political party on the island, saying it was only a synonym for Separatist. The daughter took kindly to her father's ideas, and when hardly in her teens was an out and out Separatist. She wrote many popular songs and ballads full of the spirit of freedom. These had a wide circulation and were the lullabies of many a Porto Rican household.

Dr. Nalverde, a political exile from San Domingo, and a friend of Signor Rodriguez, interested himself in the girl's education, being attracted by her gift of poetry, and instructed her in the Spanish classical style. She was an apt scholar and soon composed verse that attracted attention throughout the Spanish West Indies and even in Spain. In 1873, the year that saw the end of slavery in Porto Rico, Lola Rodriguez, then just 22 year old, made an address at the graduation exercises of the college in Mayaguez. She was the first woman in the island to speak publicly before an audience. It was a time of much political excitement. Porto Ricans were eager for reform. They wished Spain to separate the military and civil departments of the government. They were willing, they said, to have a captain general, but let him confine himself to military affairs exclusively and let another man hold the chief civil office. They wished also to elect their own provincial governors, instead of having them sent over by Spain, who appointed them not because of their fitness, but because she wished them out of the way. These worthy Spanish appointees shed tears on leaving their beloved Spain, but swore upon their honor to return again as soon as they had stolen enough to pay their debts. Another thing the native Porto Ricans wished was freedom of the press. The captain general's regulations demanded that at least four hours before any paper was issued the proof sheets should be sent to the censor for approval. His blue pencil was a judgment against which there was no appeal.

The signorita spoke eloquently, though guardedly of all these things. She besought Spain to give a mother's love to her child, far from her, almost hidden in the bosom of the sea, and she prayed that the child should show herself worthy of such love and deserving of perfect trust. The grace of the speaker's manner, the beauty of her language, won all hearts, and the brave words she spoke wrought her audience to the highest pitch of enthusiasm. In a day she had added to her fame throughout the island. She was poetess and prophetess in one. Her college address was the beginning of an active propaganda in Porto Rico that ended only when she and her husband were offered their choice between jail and the wide world.

La Razon and La Patria were suppressed, but the words of the patriot editor remained in the minds of the people. Even a captain general cannot imprison an idea. Nor could the ballads and poems of the sweet singer of the hills be exiled. The first volume, "Mes Cantares," appeared in 1876, and soon was in every book stall in Mexico, Central America, South America, the West Indies and even in Spain. A second volume appeared in Caracas, Venezuela, in 1878, followed by "Mis Poesias" in 1880, and "Mi Libro de Cuba" in 1892. In Caracas a warm friendship sprang up between the Tios and Professor Hostos, who was then at the head of educational affairs in Venezuela. After two years in Caracas a new governor general came from Spain to Porto Rico and the poetess returned to her native island, where she and her husband continued the work they had done so much to promote in earlier years. In the meantime Signora Tio's poems were gaining fame for the author. An Italian critic known as Amicis, was adding to his reputation by translating them. Fasteurath was calling them to the attention of the Germans and several French critics, among them Pierre Loti, were putting them into copy for the Parisian publishers. In Spain Mendez Pelayo, a

member of the academy, a distinguished critic, called a meeting of his conferees, among whom were Penaranda, Balayuer, Campillo and Lepoldo Alaz, who sent a testimonial of congratulation to Signora Tio and a diamond brooch in the symbolic design of a harp. This is the proudest of her possessions.

In 1887 Porto Rico was again too uncomfortable, owing to official persecutions, and the Tios came to New York, whence they soon went to Cuba. Then the poetess, who for some years had been gathering and classifying the shells of the Antilles as a recreation and diversion from her political and literary work, made the acquaintance of several eminent naturalists, who brought her to the notice of their friends in other parts of the world. She received many contributions from distant lands. One enthusiastic conchologist in the Philippines, no less a personage than the captain general himself, wrote that the interest her exquisite verse had awakened in him had been augmented intensely now that he learned from his esteemed friend, Carlos de la Torre, that the queen of verse had rare knowledge of shells as well as rhythm. He begged her to accept a few specimens from the island of the Pacific. With the letter came a complete collection of the shells of the Philippine islands.

While the Tios were in Cuba Signorita Tio entered the University of Havana and in due course was graduated from that famous seat of learning with the degree of doctor of philosophy. Signor Tio was busy with his editorial work and the poetess carried on her propaganda against Spanish oppression. In 1892 her fourth volume of poems appeared and the Spanish speaking world accorded it a hearty welcome. The outbreak of the revolution gave much encouragement to the cause for which the Tios had dedicated their lives, but with the coming of Weyler they soon suffered a persecution compared to which their troubles in Porto Rico were mild indeed, and they were glad to escape with their lives.

### POP CORN FOR INSOMNIA.

New use That Has Proved Efficacious Wherever Tried.

A northern business man living in the south has found an agreeable cure for insomnia. It answered perfectly in his case, and no longer needing it as medicine he continues it as food. It is a most agreeable dish of pop corn. The corn is popped in the usual wire basket, and while hot it is put in a hot bowl. Scalding milk is poured over it, and in two minutes it is soft and ready to be sprinkled with sugar, unless salt and pepper are preferred. The addition of a little vanilla transforms the juvenile favorite into a delicate hasty pudding. To keep the corn after gathering, put it (on the cob) in a cool place; if shelled it loses its moisture sooner, and after a while will not pop. The place where other corn is kept is best to preserve it in. Pop corn hot served in bowls of hot milk is a southern refectory at card parties.—Chicago Times-Herald.

### Ingrowing Toe Nails.

This is a very common and troublesome affection, and most usually occurs by the side of the big toe. The surrounding soft parts first become swelled and inflamed by constant pressure against the edge of the nail from the use of tight shoes. If this is allowed to continue, an ulcer is formed in which the edge of the nail is imbedded. The pain from this, in some instances, is sufficiently severe to prevent walking. When this condition is arrived at a doctor's treatment becomes necessary.

The first object is to remove the cause, the tight shoe, then proceed to lessen the irritation and reduce the swelling. After soaking in hot water, the nail should be thinned by scraping, and, if very painful, a linseed poultice will give relief. When the irritation has thoroughly subsided, soft cotton should be pressed between the flesh and the nail, and then, if the skin is not broken, it should be slightly saturated with tincture of iodine. Repeat the treatment for several days, after which the tenderness will disappear.

### Notes of Interest.

Among the queen ants captured in and around Bulwago, for which a prize of half-a-crown is paid by the sanitary board, have been some specimens measuring four and a half inches and as thick as a man's thumb.

The curfew law obtains in Seoul, Korea. When the huge bronze bell of the city proclaims the hour of sunset and the time for closing the gates, every man is obliged to retire to his home, under pain of flogging.

Germany and Austria have about 150 cooking schools. A four years' course is necessary before the student obtains a diploma. Most of the hotel chefs have diplomas from these schools.

The time necessary for the conversion of a forest tree, or a part of it, into a printed paper, in a recent test made in Germany, was two hours and twenty-five minutes.

A proposal has been made by a French chemist to obtain easily assimilable iron tonics from vegetables by feeding the plants judiciously with iron fertilizers.


### A Reason For Her Hope.

First Fair American: "I do hope the Government will hold on to the Philippines."

Second Ditto: "Why? In what way are you specially interested in the Philippines?"

"George says that if they are still in our possession next spring, we'll go there on our wedding trip."

### Important Notice!



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A large lot of Window Curtains in stock.

### The Body Petrified.

A strange story comes from Hazleton to the effect that the remains of the well-known Joseph Keller, one of the most prominent singers in Eastern Pennsylvania, who died some seven years ago and was interred in Laurel Hill cemetery, are still in a perfect state of preservation and turning into stone. It was while re-interring the remains to make room for a monument dedicated to the memory of the late John Arnold that the discovery was made. The casket was found to weigh over a thousand pounds, requiring the combined efforts of six men to move it. Upon opening the casket it was discovered, much to the surprise of those in charge of the work that the body was of a deep stone color and undergoing a complete state of petrification.

The hurricane that passed over the British West Indies on Sunday Sept. 11th, was undoubtedly the worst visitation of the kind experienced by the West Indies during the century, both in violence and extent. The hurricane swept along the island chain, from Barbadoes westward to St. Vincent and thence northwest to St. Kitts, where it was last heard from.

Barbadoes suffered mostly from the rain, which destroyed the crops and roads, as it did at St. Lucia and other islands, while the center of the storm swept St. Vincent and Guadeloupe.

Details received from St. Vincent show that an unparalleled destruction of life and property has taken place there. Out of a population of 41,000 three hundred were killed and 20,000 were injured and rendered homeless.

Besides this, owing to the complete destruction of the provisions, they are all starving. The island has been absolutely gutted by the wind and floods from the mountains, in addition to the waves along the coast.

There has been great loss to shipping along the track of the cyclone.

The above is going the rounds of the papers again, this time with the stony corpse located in Laurel Hill. How we do love that good old story! We have heard it for many years, but we never saw a petrified corpse, nor we never saw any one who said he had seen one; in fact we never saw a man who said that he had seen a man who said somebody had told him that he had seen a petrified body. The only stone man that ever existed was the Cardiff Giant, on exhibition in this country some years ago, and the stuffing was knocked out of that by positive proof that the petrified figure was a genuine fake.

WE GIVE NO REWARDS.—An offer of this kind is the meanest of deceptions. Our plan is to give everyone a chance to try the merit of Ely's Cream Balm—the original balm for the cure of catarrh, hay fever and cold in the head, by mailing for 10 cents a trial size to test its curative powers. We mail the 50-cent size also and the druggist keeps it. Test it and you are sure to continue the treatment. Relief is immediate and a cure follows. Ely Brothers, 56 Warren street, New York.

A STRONG NATION Consists of strong men and healthy women, and health and strength depend upon pure, rich blood, which is given by Hood's Sarsaparilla. A nation which takes millions of bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla every year is laying the foundation for health, the wisdom of which will surely show itself in years to come.

We have received the latest sample book of society address cards and are prepared to supply cards with beautiful designs and in great variety to Masons of all degrees, Odd Fellows, Knights of Malta, Knights of the Golden Eagle, Junior O. U. A. M., G. A. R., Union Veteran League, Sons of Veterans, Royal Arcanum, P. O. S. of A. Also cards for Firemen, Christian Endeavors and many other organizations. Call and see samples.

HOOB'S PILLS are prompt, efficient, always reliable, easy to take, easy to operate. 25c.

A MAGICAL LIFE SAVER—Is Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart. After years of pain and agony with distressing heart disease, it gives relief in 30 minutes. Thos. Petry, of Aylmer, Que., writes: "I had suffered for five years with a severe form of heart disease. I was unable to attend to business. The slightest exertion produced fatigue. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart gave me instant relief, four bottles entirely cured me." Sold by C. A. Kleim.

"No!—Yes, I got a lot of dresses and jewelry through without trouble." Belle—"You don't mean it?" "Yes; you see the customs inspector was sweet on me and I promised to marry him." "Ah, it was a question of love or duty."

"What have you been doing this year?" asked the first chicken. "Well," said the other, as it proceeded to dig up the neighbor's early turnip seed, "raising vegetables, principally."

CASTORIA.  
The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Wm. D. Mitchell*

CASTORIA.  
The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Wm. D. Mitchell*

"If at first you don't succeed," try

# SAPOLIO



### Rye for Pasture.

Rye may be sown for pasture either in the fall or in the early spring. Its function as a forage plant is to replace or supplement the dry fall pasture grass, and to afford succulent forage in the early spring before the grass is ready to be pastured. For this purpose it is best sown in the fall. If sown about September 1 it will afford good pasture in the late fall when most of the other forage plants have succumbed to frost. To obtain the best results with mitch cows this pasture should be supplemented with other feed. In the spring it affords more luxuriant forage and may be pastured as soon as the land is fit to turn the cattle on (T. L. Lyon, Bulletin 53, Nebraska Experiment Station). It is eaten with relish by stock up to the time of blossoming. After that the stalks are too woody to be relished by stock.

If it is desired to use it for pasture later than this, it should be sown in the spring. By sowing rye it is possible to use land for early pasture, plow it up and use for a summer crop, or for summer pasture with another forage crop. Seed at the rate of 1 1/2 to 2 bushels to the acre, either with a press drill or broadcast. After the plants are up, keep the surface of the soil loose with the harrow. Do not pasture in the fall until the plants have become well established. Many dairymen object to rye pasture on the grounds that it gives an unpleasant taste to the milk and butter. It seems possible to remove this objection by taking the cattle off the rye two or three hours before milking and by feeding something in addition to the rye.—American Agriculturist.

### Thinning Fruit.

The principal cause of so much small scabby and ill-shaped fruit being sent to market is that the fruit grows too thick on the trees. If a crop of corn, turnips, or any of our annual crops is planted too thick the damage is only for the present; but if a tree is allowed to bear too full, it may injure the next and perhaps the next two or three crops in the future. If a peach tree, for instance, is quite full, it may be thinned to one-half at any time before the seed hardens and will be able to produce as many pounds of fruit as it would if not thinned and of course of better quality. It is the maturing of the seed that exhausts the vitality. Some varieties of fruit are recognized as alternate bearers, and the reason is obvious. They are so busy maturing their enormous crop this year

that they have no time to prepare fruit buds for the next; besides, their vitality is so exhausted that they require a year or more of good care to prepare for another crop. By a proper and judicious thinning, these same trees may be brought to a habit of annual bearing of good and profitable crops that will handle quickly, sell readily, and for double or triple the price of small, knotty fruit. Farmers could well afford to take a little time from the regular farm work and thin their fruit trees.

### Burning Stumps.

The months of August and September are the best for the eradication of old stumps. Nothing connected with farming is more aggravating than those "thorns of the ground."

There is no better way than to burn them out, and this may be done by a simple and cheap method. A sheet iron cylinder large enough to slip down over the large stumps is used. This cylinder tapers into a cone-shaped figure the size of a stovepipe. Several joints of stovepipe are then added to this and the whole apparatus is placed over the stump. Previous to this the soil is dug away from around the stump and a fire is kindled; then the cylinder is added, the smoke evolves from the pipe and you have a good working stove, principle complete. The stump will be burned up as completely as if it were put in a stove manufactured for the purpose. There is more profit derived from the destruction of stumps than many suppose. More work can be done in a day in a field free from stumps, and a larger yield will also be the result. Spare nothing to rid yourself of every stump on your farm.—American Agriculturist.

### To Get Rid of Weeds.

A writer in Farm and Fireside says: "After the wheat and oats are cut up comes the ragweed, with other weeds too numerous to mention, and in a short time the stubble fields look like they had been forgotten. On land that was rich I have seen a perfect forest of ragweed spring up in an incredibly short time after the wheat and oats were cut. The only way to prevent this is to plough the land soon after the crop is removed. And this can be done by every farmer who is not trying to farm two or three times as much as he can. The ploughing need not be deep—three inches are sufficient to destroy all weeds that have started. If the land is to be seeded to wheat again, this early ploughing will be of the greatest benefit to it, preventing it from baking into rock-like clods which neither roller nor plank drag can pulverize. Stubble land skinned over with the plow soon after harvest can be reploughed deeper afterward, if desired, and it will crumble nicely and can be worked down fine without difficulty. I would advise all farmers to plough after harvest, whether the land is to be reseeded to wheat or not."