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One phase of progressive womanhood is unquestionably better and happier than that which preceded it.

The Bachelor Maid. The bachelor maid, says the Chicago Chronicle, has her independence, her cozy quarters, her visible means of support.

place of the old maid. The bachelor maid, says the Chicago Chronicle, has her independence, her cozy quarters, her visible means of support.

This is a strange contrast to the lot of the old maid of a generation or two ago, or rather from time immemorial.

The old maid was rejected of men and despised of women. She was the target of all sorts of jokes and had no rights of her own.

Without ways of earning a living, she was obliged to skip and do without the ornaments of life and the frills that made other women beautiful in the eyes of men.

She was obliged to be thankful for a humble seat at the table, and was allowed only a modest part in the conversation.

The burden of things was thrust upon her without remuneration and she was given to understand that mere existence was all she deserved.

How different is the situation to-day. A woman is not obliged to marry for the sake of a support or to save herself from the odium once attached to the unmarried woman.

The bachelor maid controls her own home—sings quarters it may be, but an independent home and very inviting. She has her circle of friends, men and women, married and single.

She is not set apart, excluded from good company or merely tolerated. She is warmly welcomed and given the best of good cheer.

Surely the transformation of the old maid into the bachelor maid is more than a transformation. It is a translocation, or even a transfiguration.

An idea once obtaining in the north about the southern woman was that she was languid, incompetent—lazy, in plain terms.

There never was a greater mistake. The mistress of a big southern plantation had to be possessed of large administrative and executive ability, and she had to exercise it very industriously.

She held in her hands, so to speak, the government of a small nation, and she had to see that its needs were met, its sickness, death, marriages, births, joys, and sorrows had to be provided for in her scheme of management, and often through her personal administration was comfort and help administered.

On the other hand, writes Myrtle Lockett Avery, in Guntton's Magazine, she was relieved of many domestic burdens which the modern woman carries by trained servants who took pride in the artistic discharge of their functions.

I know of no position in modern society in any way analogous to hers, save that of the English mistress of a large estate, whose responsibilities are not so grave because she has a more intelligent community under her control.

"At last, after 40 years of hard work, my highest ambition is about to be realized," said a worthy fellow citizen who began on a capital of brains and cash and is now counting his wealth in seven figures.

"I have bought a house before whose doors nearly every parade of consequence will pass. I can sit in the window night or day and see the crowds go by, hear the cheering and listen to the music of the bands without having myself squeezed flat, my toes trodden upon, my clothes disarranged, my hat knocked off and all that sort of thing.

Ever since I was old enough to run away from home to witness a procession I have envied the possessors of doors or windows along the line of march, and at last I'm happy."

A clergyman long engaged in missionary work in Turkey gives an excellent idea of the repressive censorship exercised by the sultan's government. The latest act of the board of censors has been to cut out of the Book of Proverbs such verses as the following: "Envy thou not the oppressor, and choose none of his ways."

"Enter not into the path of the wicked and go not in the way of evil men." "Rob not the poor, because he is poor; neither oppress the afflicted in the gate; for the Lord will plead their cause, and spoil the soul of those that spoiled them."

DOWNFALL OF FREE TRADE.

England's Foremost Statesmen Believe That Protection Must Be Resorted To.

Prime Minister Balfour's pamphlet entitled, "Economic Notes on Insular Free Trade," is substantially a confession that a modified protective policy may be a necessity to the British empire as now situated.

Mr. Balfour says he approaches the subject from the free trade point of view, but not precisely after the manner of Cobden. His conviction is that conditions require a fiscal policy varying with circumstances, and that the British people "have no right whatever to regard any plan as perfect, merely because it is simple, unartificial, and, above all, familiar."

In Mr. Balfour's opinion, results have driven his countrymen to ask "whether a fiscal system suited to a free trade nation in a world of free traders remains suited in every detail to a free trade nation in a world of protectionists."

Here is an admission, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, that in adopting free trade, England expected other nations to follow the example, and that the world well knows that English free trade propagandists and agents have labored hard to persuade foreign countries to adopt the doctrine.

This crusade having failed, Mr. Balfour recognizes the need of shifting the point of view. The mountain will not go to Mahomet, so Mahomet must take the alternative under consideration.

Mr. Balfour's argument is plainly that of a nominal free trader who will yield more ground the moment British public sentiment seems ready for it. He owns that "free trade may not save a nation from suffering more by the adoption of a protective policy by its neighbors than do those neighbors themselves, nor even from being worse off than it would have been had it never pursued a free trade policy at all."

An intimate knowledge of British fiscal affairs and tendencies has led the prime minister to doubt the expediency of a continued fight for free trade, almost single-handed, against the most of the earth. He declares that the British position would be still more undesirable were it not that foreign countries owe England a great deal of money, and that areas remain that are not protected, or protected only in part.

Only these three causes, Balfour asserts, could save a free trade island from a helplessness in which all that is produced could be sold only at a loss. In that case "capital either flies to happier regions or is lost; labor either emigrates or sinks to savagery, and unless other help arrives our (hypothetical) island returns to the state of nature from which it had surely been better that it had never emerged."

Not a bright picture, surely, from one who says he is still a free trader under reservations. As for the future, Balfour sees no satisfactory symptoms for British interests, and he goes on to say: "The highly developed industrial countries, like Germany, America and France, give no sign of any wish to relax their protectionist system. The less developed protectionist communities, like Russia and some of our own self-governing colonies, are busily occupied in building up protected interests within their borders—a process which is doubtless costly to them, but is not on that account the less injurious to us."

Therefore, Balfour's conclusion is that England should resort to protection far enough to induce an equitable tariff disposition in other nations. He would do to foreign countries "what they always do to each other, and instead of appealing to economic theories in which they wholly disbelieve, use fiscal inducements which they thoroughly understand."

So the prime minister's free trade, as he himself unveils it, is retaliatory protection, not free trade nor anything resembling it in the theory or practice. There is, in truth, little difference between Balfour and Chamberlain. Both are convinced from existing British fiscal conditions and prospects that protection in some form must soon be resorted to, and that the necessity will present itself to all cabinets alike.

Discordant Iowa Democrats. The democrats are not as united in Iowa as they would have the public to believe. In several counties the Kansas City platform has been reaffirmed in spite of the fact that their state convention refused to reaffirm this platform, and, in fact, repudiated it. Among the counties in which the democrats have endorsed the Kansas City platform are Ringgold and Monroe. They made a strenuous effort to do so in Washington county, but were defeated. The republican state committee has reason to believe that the democrats will have a large campaign fund in Iowa this fall, although they have no means of raising any considerable amount of money within the state. It is believed that large sums are coming from those who desire to see the republican majority cut down in Iowa this fall on account of the effect it will have next year.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

"Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?" Do they get municipal reform from democratic victories?—Indianapolis Journal.

The silver democrats continue to demonstrate with detail and exactness that they are much displeased, but they are not so definite in pointing out a remedy for the evils that they condemn.—Indianapolis News (Ind.).

"We despise the hypocrisy which outdoes populism," etc., say the democrats of Massachusetts. Clearly the breach is getting wider, and, judging from the expressions on both sides, Mr. Bryan is being left in it.—Indianapolis News (Ind.).

The latest explosion of wisdom in the republic is a theory that a British system of retaliatory protection would drive this country to free trade. These scintillations of profundity are received with unsophisticated indifference by republican protectionists, who note, without surprise, that free traders are walking the floor.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A POOR OUTLOOK.

Democracy's Main Prop Knocked Down by British Statesmen of the Cobden School.

In the light of Mr. Balfour's Sheffield speech and the coming adoption of protection and reciprocity as the economic policy of Great Britain it is pertinent to ask what will become of the democratic party in this country?

says the Indianapolis Journal. From time immemorial free trade has been the party's battle cry and England the arsenal from whence to draw its weapons of warfare. It has embraced and abandoned in turn scores of opportunist whims and makeshift policies and has run off after numberless political vagaries, but it has stuck to free trade with a tenacity that looked almost like conviction, and has accepted the conclusions of British statesmen of the Cobden school much more implicitly than it has any teaching of the Bible. Free trade has been the one plank in all its platforms for more than 50 years which, when all the rest were wrecked and shattered, did not climb onto and drift till it landed somewhere. Although the free-trade garment was old-fashioned, ill fitting, badly worn and withal borrowed, the democratic party clung to it as if it was the latest and best thing out and the only thing fit to wear. It was English, you know. But with free trade discarded in England, as it will be in time, put off and thrown aside as an antiquated misfit entirely unsuited to modern times and conditions, what will become of the democratic party? For more than 50 years it has been marching under the banner of Richard Cobden, yet hear Premier Balfour in his Sheffield speech: "Mr. Cobden," he said, "did not foresee the developments of the last half century which have made free trade an empty name and a vain farce." Again, he referred to existing conditions as "a state of things absolutely inconsistent with free trade as Cobden understood it." He meant the modern protective system which has made Cobdenism a barren ideal. Again he said: "There has been a development of which Cobden and his contemporaries never dreamed," meaning the development of modern commerce, of which the democratic party takes no account. Again Mr. Balfour said: "Our grandfathers fought the battle of 1846 in view of the actual situation. I ask the nation to-day to follow their example and not to be misled by musty debates." On the question of free trade the democratic party lives in the past and does not want any better guidance than musty debates reflecting the views of Cobden. Yet here is a British premier throwing them all aside and actually using the sacred name of Cobden disrespectfully. With Cobdenism repudiated in Great Britain and free trade disowned in the house of its friends, what will become of the democratic party in this country?

Widely conflicting reports are received as to the condition of the iron and steel industry. There is evidence that the decline in quotations has been checked, although it is occasionally stated that special terms are made on important contracts. A better inquiry is noted in the west, pig iron being freely taken by open hearth steel furnaces and makers of railway supplies, and in some favored lines the new orders cover deliveries through all of next year.

A significant event was the announcement that control of the Clairton Steel Co. had not passed to the leading producer and these mills with their modern equipment will continue to operate independently. One result of the severe fall in prices and diminished activity will be a general reduction in wages, some plants having already announced their intention to make a new scale on January 1.

Failures this week number 208 in the United States, against 206 last year, and in Canada 28, compared with 24 a year ago.

NOT A SUCCESS. Strike of Pacific Express Co's Messengers Did Not Interfere with the Transaction of Business to Any Great Extent.

St. Louis, Oct. 17.—The strike inaugurated here Thursday night by the Pacific Express Co. messengers has not interfered with the transaction of business to any considerable extent, according to a statement made by General Superintendent Gentch. He said that business was running along almost as usual and that there is an overplus of men applying for the vacancies, which are now practically all filled.

F. E. Modie, of Chicago, president of the National Brotherhood of Expressmen, who is here supervising this strike, stated that all members of the brotherhood employed by the Pacific Express Co. had responded to the order to strike. He said that the brotherhood's local strength is about 600 men and he thought they were all out.

Atholton, Kan., Oct. 17.—All the Pacific express messengers, clerks and drivers here who struck Thursday went back to work Friday in the belief that the company's employes at Kansas City intended taking similar action.

Kansas City, Oct. 17.—The striking Pacific Express messengers here are still out.

Omaha, Neb., Oct. 17.—Fifty-two messengers of the Pacific Express Co., whose headquarters are in Omaha, reported for duty as usual yesterday. A number of the express messengers reporting to the Omaha office were sent south to take strikers' places, and the company requested porters to take the cars of those leaving. The porters refused to do so, on the ground that they were bonded as porters, and not as messengers. The porters were at once discharged.

Riot Follows a Strike. New York, Oct. 17.—In a riot last night, the result of a strike in a rag factory in First street, several girls were stabbed. The employes recently organized under the name of the Clip Sorters' union. Demands were made upon the firm which were refused, and a strike was declared. To carry on their business the firm engaged a number of Italians. Then the new union stationed pickets near the factory. Last night when the Italians came out of the factory a free fight occurred and the Italians used knives to defend themselves. In the affray Lena Schwartz was stabbed in the neck. Three other girls were slightly hurt. Two Italians were arrested.

Burglars Looted a Postoffice. Plattsburgh, N. Y., Oct. 17.—By using nitro-glycerine mixed with soap, burglars Thursday night blew open the safe in the postoffice at St. Regis Falls, Franklin county, securing a few registered letters and a large quantity of stamps, but little currency. The burglars then stole a handcar and ran on a sharp down grade on the New York & Ottawa railroad a distance of 15 miles. From there it is believed they made for the Canadian line, about ten miles away.

Many People Injured. New York, Oct. 17.—Three persons were seriously injured, a score of others were cut by flying glass and badly shaken up and a picnic was precipitated when an Eighth avenue electric car crashed into a Fourteenth street horse car at Eighth avenue and Fourteenth street last night.

May Become a Celebrated Case. Philadelphia, Oct. 17.—A matter that may become a celebrated case in the Protestant Episcopal church in America became public Friday when announcement was made that Bishop John Scarborough, of the diocese of New Jersey, had refused to approve the call to a church within his jurisdiction of a clergyman married to a woman who had been granted a divorce from her first husband—also an Episcopal clergyman. The case is that of Rev. George F. Kettell, formerly assistant rector of Christ church, Baltimore.

DUN'S WEEKLY BULLETIN.

Some Contraction in Trade and Industry Is Noticeable. New York, Oct. 17.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: While some contraction in trade and industry has undoubtedly taken place, it is not in proportion to the reduction of 20 per cent. in pig iron output, or the reaction in prices of securities, although in normal years these have usually proved fairly reliable barometers. Many branches of manufacture, however, are working full force, with large orders still unfilled, while the latest returns of the crops are most encouraging. Finance and labor are the disturbing elements this year neutralized very largely by favorable commercial and agricultural conditions. The net result is a fairly well maintained volume of trade, offset by conservatism in carrying out new undertakings and proposed reorganization of facilities. Railway earnings thus far available for October are 6.2 per cent. larger than last year.

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HONORS WERE EVEN.

Although the Attorney Ran Somewhat of a Risk in Retaliating on the Judge.

John R. Eldridge, a well known western New York attorney, recently had occasion to argue a case before a justice of the peace in one of the small towns near Rochester. It happened that Mr. Eldridge and the justice belonged to different political parties, and had been opposed to each other in several contests and were far from being on the best personal terms. Each, to use a slang expression, "had it in for the other." The justice scored the first point, says the New York Herald.

In a field near the court room a donkey was feeding. Just as Mr. Eldridge was in the midst of his plea something disturbed the animal and it broke forth with a resounding bray.

"Just a minute, Mr. Eldridge, just a minute," said the justice blandly. "I cannot hear two at once."

The attorney was hard hit, but he said nothing and waited his turn. It came when the justice was explaining a point of law to the jury. Again the bray of the donkey resounded through the court room. Mr. Eldridge placed his hand at his ear.

"Would you mind repeating that, your honor?" he said in his mildest tones. "There was such an echo that I could not understand."

Perhaps the attorney was guilty of contempt of court, but the general opinion in the court room seemed to be that honors were about even.

Still Another Case. Franksville, Wis., Oct. 12th.—Many remarkable cures have been reported from all over the country, but there is one right here in Frankville which is certainly worth publishing, and which has not as yet been given to the public.

Mrs. Louis Markison of this place had been a sick woman for quite a long time and could not find anything to give her any help. She suffered all the painful symptoms of what is generally known as female weakness. Every woman who reads her story will understand these distressing conditions which combine to make the lives of many women one long burden of weakness and suffering.

Mrs. Markison chanced one day to hear of a new remedy called Dodd's Kidney Pills, that was said to be a splendid medicine for women's weakness. She determined to try some and soon found herself getting better. She kept on with the pills and was cured. Speaking of her case Mrs. Markison says: "I can and do praise Dodd's Kidney Pills as a remedy for female weakness. They are the best medicine I have ever known, and have done me a great deal of good."

You cannot reach the heart with the head alone.—Ran's Horn.

Cheaper Than Staying at Home. The man who wishes to locate in the Southwest this fall has little excuse for staying at home, so far as railroad rates are concerned. The Santa Fe announces very low one-way second-class rates to California—\$33 from Chicago, \$25 from Kansas City, \$30 from St. Louis, and proportionate reductions from the East generally. These tickets are on sale every day until November 30. They are being availed of by those wishing to settle in the San Joaquin and other great valleys of California, likewise Arizona passengers. The same line also offers a rate of about half fare, plus \$2, one-way or round-trip, to the Southwest generally, the first and third Tuesdays of each month; the last semi-monthly excursion filled every available car. On October 20 a special bargain-counter round-trip home-seekers' rate is advertised for \$20 from Chicago, and \$15 from Kansas City to central and eastern Texas and to Oklahoma, also \$5 higher to Pecos Valley, of New Mexico.

The mere sightseer will be more interested in the excursions to Los Angeles and San Francisco that are booked on the Santa Fe the latter part of October, according to American Bankers' Association. The rate then, out and back, will be \$62.50 from Chicago, \$50 from Kansas City, and similarly reduced from other points. Anyone may go who has the price in his pocketbook. Special parties will take in the Grand Canyon of Arizona, on the way, and will be personally escorted. Those wishing to try an ocean voyage can extend their trip by Oceanic line steamer from San Francisco to Hawaii and enjoy a week's outing in the isles of peace.

A Doctor's Retort. Every doctor knows the man and woman who cultivate the habit of accusing him in the street and in the guise of ordinary conversation try to extract free medical advice. One such inquirer greeted an eminent physician with the remark: "I hear fish is an excellent brain food. Do you think so?" "Excuse me," was the reply, "but in your case it seems a pity to waste the fish."—London Outlook.

The Chicago & North-Western is the only double track railway between Chicago and the Missouri River.

Mrs. Ascum—"Your boy is at college now, eh? He's pretty bright, too, isn't he?" Mrs. Malaprop—"Yes, indeed. His professor says he's a regular genius."—Philadelphia Press.

June Tint Butter Color makes top of the market butter.

Same Old Bluff—"This precipice," explained the guide, "is known as 'Lover's Leap.'" "Same old bluff, eh?" remarked the blase tourist.—Philadelphia Record.

Miss Alice M. Smith, of Minneapolis, Minn., tells how woman's monthly suffering may be quickly and permanently relieved by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I have never before given my endorsement for any medicine, but Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has added so much to my life and happiness that I feel like making an exception in this case. For two years every month I would have two days of severe pain and could find no relief, but one day when visiting a friend I ran across Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound,—she had used it with the best results and advised me to try it. I found that it worked wonders with me; I now experience no pain and only had to use a few bottles to bring about this wonderful change. I use it occasionally now when I am exceptionally tired or worn out."—Miss ALICE M. SMITH, 804 Third Ave., South Minneapolis, Minn., Chairman Executive Committee Minneapolis Study Club.

Beauty and strength in women vanish early in life because of monthly pain or some menstrual irregularity. Many suffer silently and see their best gifts fade away. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound helps women preserve roundness of form and freshness of face because it makes their entire female organism healthy. It carries women safely through the various natural crises and is the safeguard of woman's health.

The truth about this great medicine is told in the letters from women published in this paper constantly.

Mrs. C. Kleinschrodt, Morrison, Ill., says:—"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I have suffered ever since I was thirteen years of age with my menses. They were irregular and very painful. I doctored a great deal but received no benefit. A friend advised me to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, which I did, and after taking a few bottles of it, I found great relief. Menstruation is now regular and without pain. I am enjoying better health than I have for some time."

How is it possible for us to make it plainer that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will positively help all sick women? All women are constituted alike, rich and poor, high and low,—all suffer from the same organic troubles. Surely, no one can wish to remain weak and sickly, discouraged with life and without hope for the future, when proof is so unmistakable that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will cure monthly suffering—all womb and ovarian troubles, and all the ills peculiar to women.

\$5000 FORFEIT if we cannot forthwith produce the original letters and signatures of above testimonials, which will prove their absolute genuineness. Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass.

I PAY SPOT CASH FOR MILITARY LAND WARRANTS

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