

Colored Gentility in the Happy Valley

By Emily McGuire

A Southern Woman Tells Quaint Anecdotes About Some Colored Folk She Met in Old Virginia—Secluded Abode on the Top of the Alleghenies Which Has Been Visited by Many Noted Persons, Including Washington and Jefferson, Whose Names May Now Be Seen There on the Hotel Register.

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On the top of the Allegheny mountains, in the very heart of the "Old Dominion," lies the most perfect modern reproduction of that real Old Arcadia so beloved by the poets. Nor is it such a very modern reproduction, either, because the "happy valley" of which I am speaking has been visited by succeeding generations of devoted pilgrims since the early days of our young republic, and among the many names found on the register of the quaint little hotel there can be seen those of Washington and Jefferson and many others which are also inscribed upon the roll of fame.

In this Warm Springs valley of which I am speaking not only does the sunshine seem of a different character, its rays coming to earth softened and veiled by a mist, which, though golden during the day, turns to purple toward evening, but the song of the bird becomes more melodious, the bee hums more drowsily, the streams ripple more musically, the leaves rustle more soothingly; but our fellow beings whom we meet there are of a different order from any whom I have met elsewhere, and are possessed of a quaint and humorous turn of mind and have an originality exclusively their own.

Of course it must be explained that I am speaking now only of the colored race. The first time I entered this "happy valley," more than 20 years ago, I said to an old negro, who looked as if he had grown old with the mountains: "Is the train on time this morning?" and he responded: "Oh, no, indeed, honey, dat train ain't on time." Then I asked: "How much is it behind time?" and he said: "Fo' hours." I was appalled, and asked: "Has it ever been as much as four hours late before?" and he answered: "Yes, indeed, honey; one day las' week de train never come at all." But a little circumstance like that did not seem to have the power to overthrow the equipoise of that calm community.

They also have a phraseology and a vocabulary all their own, but what they say never for a moment leaves any doubt in your mind as to what they mean.

I once went into the cabin of a poor woman where death had entered, and, not seeing any means or methods of burial, I asked: "What will be done?" and the woman replied: "Why, Mr. Crizer has always undertook in our family, and always done it well."

Old Uncle Billie, who was always regarded as a "last court of appeal" in matters meteorological, was once asked what he supposed was the cause of some peculiarly disagreeable weather, and his explanation was: "The heavy respections of the atmosphere make the elements dismal." Which really sounded so exactly as if it had been promulgated by the weather bureau that we almost hoped to secure "Old Billie" a position in the signal service on the strength of it.

In the "Cowardin Cap" of the Allegheny mountains, at a little settlement bearing the classic name of Shake-Rag, stands a colored church, of what denomination I never have been able to discover, and to be there when there is either a wedding in the church or a baptizing in the Jackson river near by, to see the bucolic travesties upon the prevailing modes, especially in the matter of chignons and pompadours, is a liberal education. A window's mourning, if one happens to be there, is something fearful and wonderful to behold.

At a baptizing in the Jackson river on one occasion I saw and heard hundreds of the faithful singing and shouting: "Now every one of you that thirst, Step down into the water, And freely drink and quench that thirst, Like Zion's son and daughter."

At a recent wedding in the church at Shake-Rag the preacher, who seemed to have heard rumors of the matrimonial snares and pitfalls of the outer world, made a charge to the contracting parties—a landress and a walter from the Warm Springs hotel—and concluded by saying: "And may you live together forever in unavoidable infidelity and may you never supparture."

It is amusing, also, to see what rare combinations of Christian humanity and worldly pride one frequently encounters in that peaceful valley. I once attempted to adjust a difficulty which had arisen between two old female colored autocrats living in that mountain gap, and finally one of them said to me: "The trouble is in this here Gap that these niggers will speak mistrusts which ain't outright, and make it hard for Sister Jane." "Oh," said I, "if you see Jane's sis-

ter, I can soon settle the whole difficulty."

She placed her arms akimbo, cast a baleful and rebuking eye upon me, and replied: "Sister in de Lord, honey, and de First Baptist church, colored."

She flouted the idea of their being of the same family or blood.

At the sweet little old Warm Springs hotel near by, presided over by two sisters, high-born, high-bred Carolina gentlewomen, one meets all the true aristocracy of the southern states, and there the rude world never seems to enter, there being nothing to attract the flashy element. On the contrary, a high-bred distinction seems to characterize the place, and it is neither impressed by the presence or depressed by the absence of the "smart set."

A woman at the north once wrote to a friend at the Warm Springs that she was not able to join her there, and gave as one reason that she had not been able to provide a summer wardrobe that season. The friend at the Warm Springs responded, saying: "Here one needs no new wardrobe nor any large bank account, but one does require a 'family tree,' so if you have ancestors, bring them, as here every one is the granddaughter of a dead president, or, at least, of Patrick Henry."

The wonderful thermal baths here are presided over by two most typical and interesting colored people, and these hot pools are 50 feet in diameter and the water has a temperature of 93 degrees. Jackson, who has been at the men's bathhouses for these many years, is a great authority upon gout and rheumatism, a great believer in the occult and the unseen, in omens, and conjuring, and is regarded with deep respect by his own kind as a reliable and dependable interpreter of dreams. Fanny Shepard, whose term of service at the women's bathhouse has been as long as Jackson's, is as picturesque and interesting a character as is he.

She was indignant because the hotel official who "personally conducted" President McKinley to see "her pool," had not only not officially presented her to him, but had not even told her who he was. She complained to me that "when he come from the men's pool that I seen Jackson a-bowin' and a-congerin' to him," but that had not enlightened her. She said further: "The president would have been interested in me if any one had told him that I have a son who is a missionary in Africa, and who is a fellow of the Royal Geographical society, of London, and who had dined with Queen Victoria at her own table at Windsor castle."

All of which I knew to be true, because I knew this son, William Shepard, and during my early years at the Warm Springs he was one of the waiters in the dining-room and at the same time a Baptist preacher, but he felt called upon to go into the missionary field and he went to Africa. There it was soon manifest that he could exercise great influence over some of the most savage of the African tribes. He is one of those who has penetrated the farthest into some of these African wildernesses. He was invited to London by the Royal Geographical society, which made him one of its members, and he was invited by Queen Victoria, and did dine with her at her own table in Windsor castle.

The whole of my account of this part of the world, however, must not be accorded to human nature alone. The grand and beautiful scenery must be spoken of to those who have not had the good fortune to see for themselves. Nothing in nature can be as beautiful as to see the spring come up in the Warm Springs valley. The whole face of the level country is white with the bloom of the locust and the dogwood and of the fruit blossoms, especially the apple, for which that region of the country is celebrated. Then there is a native thorn, which when in full bloom, looks as if snow had fallen upon it, and in passing any cottage or farmhouse the atmosphere is heavy with the fragrance of lilacs and lilies of the valley, while the fields are heavenly blue with myriads of waving Roman hyacinths.

No pen can adequately describe the mountain sides at this season. They are literally ablaze with laurel, rhododendron and the wild mountain azalea in pink, orange and pale yellow. In all seasons of the year nature is at her best here but the beauty, charm and enchantment of the spring are beyond anything I have seen in the world elsewhere. Upon a clear, exquisite day these lines insensibly glide into the mind: "Blue isles of heaven laugh between And far in forest depths unseen, The topmost elm trees gather green From draughts of balmy air."

The Child's Skin. The chief peculiarity about the treatment of skin disease in children is that the reaction to the remedies applied is more prompt than in adults, says a writer in the London Hospital. Moreover, since the risk of absorption is by no means inconsiderable, ointments and lotions containing powerful poisons, such as carbolic acid or mercury, should not be employed, unless well diluted, over large surfaces of the body.

Certain cutaneous lesions also are transient, so that one is left with their results, notably the scratch-mark and the scab. The history of the mode of onset of an eruption, as given by an intelligent mother or nurse, is, therefore, of greater value than the statement of the patient himself, who might even be unaware of the existence of anything wrong with his skin.

A TERRIBLE EXPERIENCE.

How a Veteran Was Saved the Amputation of a Limb.

B. Frank Doremus, veteran, of Roosevelt avenue, Indianapolis, Ind., says: "I had been showing symptoms of kidney trouble from the time I was mustered out of the army, but in all my life I never suffered as in 1897. Headaches, dizziness and sleeplessness, first, and then dropsy. I was weak and helpless, having run down from 180 to 125 pounds. I was having terrible pain in the kidneys, and the secretions passed almost involuntarily. My left leg swelled until it was 34 inches around, and the doctor tapped it night and morning until I could no longer stand it, and then he advised amputation. I refused, and began using Doan's Kidney Pills. The swelling subsided gradually, the urine became natural, and all my pains and aches disappeared. I have been well now for nine years since using Doan's Kidney Pills."

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COINED A BIG WORD.

Little One Wanted to Pick the "Underchilderable" Flowers.

When the first little granddaughter was big enough to want to pick the garden flowers, the grandparents tried every guileful means to save their pet posies from devastation. A truce was reached when it was agreed that Harriet should let the garden plants alone and pick only "children's flowers," a descriptive name bestowed at once alike on dandelions, buttercups, fairsies and clovers. After this there was peace in the family. One day Katherine, the newest granddaughter, was contentedly pulling grasses while grandmother snipped off blossoms from the forget-me-nots. Katherine remembered that fresh flowers had not been gathered for the dinner table. She ran over to grandmother and promptly coined one of the longest words a four-year-old ever used. "Grandmother," she begged, "can't I pick the underchilderable flowers for dinner?"

SLEEP BROKEN BY ITCHING.

Eczema Covered Whole Body for a Year—No Relief Until Cuticura Remedies Prove a Success.

"For a year I have had what they call eczema. I had an itching all over my body, and when I would retire for the night it would keep me awake half the night, and the more I would scratch, the more it would itch. I tried all kinds of remedies, but could get no relief.

"I used one cake of Cuticura Soap, one box of Cuticura, and two vials of Cuticura Resolvent Pills, which cost me a dollar and twenty-five cents in all, and am very glad I tried them, for I was completely cured. Walter W. Paglusch, 207 N. Robey St., Chicago, Ill., Oct. 8 and 16, 1906."

Yes, Why Not?

Dr. Frank C. Bostwick, official dentist to the sultan of Morocco, has been spending his vacation in Plainfield, N. J., and at a recent dinner he said, apropos of a bad child:

"It is wise to punish children, but not corporally. I know a dentist in Gibraltar who got out a birch rod to punish his little son with one day. The boy, looking at the rod, said pitiously: 'Papa, would you mind giving me gas first?'"

As in the Olden Time.

A great sensation has been caused at Mantua, in Italy, by the discovery in real life of what reads like the lurid climax of a redievel melodrama. It appears that a young woman named Cornelia Orlandelli, 18 years old and of good family, has been immured in a lunatic asylum by her own family in order to keep her from corresponding with a young man of her own station in life.

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We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

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HIS MEMORY WAS GOOD.

Commodore Vanderbilt Had Not Forgotten Old Days.

The coming of age of Miss Gladys Vanderbilt and the payment to her of some twelve millions of dollars inheritance has brought out a new crop of anecdotes about the Vanderbilt fortune. One of the latest illustrates the democratic spirit of the old commodore.

Sitting on the porch of a fashionable hotel at a fashionable resort on one occasion, it is related, the commodore saw a lady approaching with whom he was acquainted. His wife and daughter, who recognized her, could scarcely contain their anger when he arose and politely addressed her.

"Don't you know," said the daughter after she had gone, "that horrid woman used to sell poultry to us?"

"Yes," responded the old millionaire, "and I remember when your mother sold roe beer and I peddled oysters in New Jersey."

ON A MACKEREL SCHOONER.

Daily Routine in the Life of the Gloucester Fishermen.

The routine life on a mackerel schooner is not strenuous. The crew consists of 14 men, a skipper and cook. Two men constitute a watch, one aloft as a lookout, the other at the wheel, so that each man has two hours on duty, and then 12 hours off, before his turn comes around again. During this period he may be called on to shorten sail, wash the deck or to perform other work. Half of the crew have their bunks forward with the cook, who is king of the forecabin, and the rest sleep aft with the captain. We were assigned to a double bunk aft, where we were not troubled with galley smells, but had to be on our good behavior. All the rolls and reels were forward. The crew ate in two shifts, the older men with the skipper.—Travel Magazine.

The Shah on His Travels.

How the shah of Persia left Teheran on his journey to Europe in 1900 is described by the author of "Through Persia in a Motor Car." The imperial baggage—items of which were sacks of corn and barley, a school globe and a colossal musical box—was four hours rolling through Teheran. In the midst, on a diminutive donkey, came a little man with a gray beard and spectacles, who carried an enormous wallet, out of which bulged mysterious-looking articles, among others a huge open telescope. This was his sacred majesty's astrologer.

All Explained.

There is a little story going round the house of commons about a certain member who abstained from voting on the deceased wife's sister bill. Questioned by one of his friends as to the reason for his abstention, he replied: "Well, my dear fellow, it's just like this—my wife has a sister."—John Bull.

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First Thibet Newspaper.

A report received at Peking from Chang Yingtang, the Chinese resident at Lhassa, tells of the establishment of a native newspaper, the first one ever printed in the Thibetan language.

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Perfect Womanhood

The greatest menace to woman's permanent happiness in life is the suffering that comes from some derangement of the feminine organs. Many thousands of women have realized this too late to save their health, barely in time to save their lives.

To be a successful wife, to retain the love and admiration of her husband, should be a woman's constant study.

If a woman finds that her energies are flagging, that she gets easily tired, dark shadows appear under her eyes, she has backache, headache, bearing-down sensations, nervousness, irregularities or the "blues," she should start at once to build up her system by a tonic with specific powers, such as



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The great woman's remedy for woman's ills, made only of roots and herbs. It cures Female Complaints, such as Dragging Sensations, Weak Back, Falling and Displacements, Inflammation and Ulceration, and all Organic Diseases, and is invaluable in the Change of Life. It dissolves and Expels Tumors at an early stage. Suddens Faintness, Nervous Prostration, Exhaustion, and strengthens and tones the Stomach. Cures Headache, General Debility, Indigestion, and invigorates the whole female system. It is an excellent remedy for derangements of the Kidneys in either sex.

Town Lot Sales on a New Railway

On October 24th the opening sale of lots in the new town of Hettinger, North Dakota, will be held, and the sale at Bowman, North Dakota, will be held a little later. These towns are west of the Missouri River, on the Pacific Coast extension of the

Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway

Hettinger is 221 miles west of Aberdeen, S. D., and 131 miles west of the Missouri River in one of the best agricultural sections of the entire West. Hettinger will be the county seat of Adams County, North Dakota, and Bowman, of Bowman County, North Dakota.

Special train service, including sleeping cars, dining cars and coaches, will be offered from Aberdeen for each sale. Fixed prices will be placed on the lots, and the choice will be by auction. Descriptive maps and folders sent free on request.

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