

PAUPERIZING A PEOPLE

By WILLIAM F. GIBBONS.

[Special to The Citizen.]

If one would see the blight of sentimental almsgiving let him travel in the Orient. Here he may see beggary reduced to a science and fraud practiced as a fine art. It is hardly too much to say that everyone looks for a present, man, woman, and child, the prosperous in his way, the starving and miserable for his dole. From one end of the land to the other, people of every language and every strain of blood utter one universal cry, "BACKSHISH!"

In Jaffa I saw a naked child sitting astride its mother's shoulder, not yet three years old, stretch out its grimy paw while the filthy baby lips exploded with the word, "Backshish." In Cairo they tell you that the word is not of native origin, but an importation from Syria. In Palestine they trust it still further back toward Persia. That is, the better class of people do this, the rest use the word without shame. Our Christian guide on the Nile, said that he had never heard the word until about thirty years ago, when travel from Palestine began to flow towards the Cairo, but his memory may have been at fault. Certain it is that the farther we went from Palestine the less frequently we heard the hateful word.

The tourist complains of the universal howl, but the tourist is himself to blame in large measure. That is to say, the tourist of an earlier generation is to blame for the conditions which exist to-day, while those who continue the practice of indiscriminate charity are helping to fasten the parasitic habit and to make miserable both beggar and tourist of the next generation. So clearly do they understand this who have the real welfare of the people at heart, that the missionaries and government employees have said again and again, "Don't give money to these people all the time." I even saw the request printed in a circular designed to promote winter travel in the Soudan, "Visitors are asked not to give alms or excessive tips to the natives, as it tends to hinder their development." The warning is a necessary one, and should be printed in red across the ticket, time-table, and pocket-book of every traveller in the east. The pity is that it could not have been done ages ago.

As it is beggars besiege you on every hand. Toothless women with unveiled faces upon which pain and despair have written indelible traces; children picturesque with rags and dirt, smiling and winsome, with teeth like pearls and hair that would be beautiful if cleansed and combed; lepers in rags; mere fragments of men, waiving their stumps of limbs to attract attention; blind men standing in the corners of the streets, well outside the stream of traffic, rattling tin cans, and calling in English, French, German, and Arabic when they hear a passing step; veiled women, to me the most pathetic of all, huddled into forlorn heaps in the dust with one or more sickly children crawling like vermin among their skirts, looking up to the traveler with haunting, hunted eyes, dependent upon some chance dole for another day of life. I don't wonder that people give in this land; I wonder that they give to such little purpose.

No doubt the sentiment which prompts the gift is a double one. The visitor sees such grinding poverty as he never imagined could exist. From his comfortable well-fed point of view, the blind man or the leper is starving. Furthermore, he has girdled the globe for the sake of standing on holy ground. His soul is stirred by the deepest feelings to which men are susceptible. Giving becomes an act of worship. But to the man whose hand has become stiffened by being stretched out to receive alms, and whose voice has sunk to a raucous croak of solicitation, the gift is a curse which has robbed him of every atom of self-respect. Oh, the pity of it! If the donor would take his gift to some wise, sane mission worker, or bestow it on some hospital or institution worthily managed, he might have helped instead of blighting the land.

At first it seemed that Cairo must be the center of this plague of beggary, but further experience convinces me that the worst spot is Jerusalem. For many centuries, Jews, Mahometans, Greeks, Copts, Roman and Protestant Christians have united to pauperize this city. The very fiber of manhood seems to have been sapped by the long process of parasites. This is what makes so difficult all forms of religious work in Jerusalem. If ever there was a place where men became adherents to a given creed for revenue only, it is in this city. Comparatively speaking, the results of mission work here are meager. Some churches have abandoned the effort. I would not belittle the splendid work of the English Church Missionary Society, nor of the Roman or Greek churches in the face of hardship and even persecution. All honor to those who have held on in their work in spite of the hindrances of a rapacious government and by sentimental, pauperizing travellers. Closely allied to the evils of beggary are the frauds practiced on travellers. These run the whole gamut, from the petty impositions of

the camel driver to the gigantic frauds meant to deceive the millionaire collector of curios. There have been enough spurious antiquities carried out of the Orient to sink the largest ship that floats; tons of curios which the vendors have sworn by their Gods were found in the mummy chambers of the kings. Enough olive wood ornaments stamped with the sacred name of Gethsemane to turn the whole Mount of Olives into a lumber yard. I saw car loads of olive trunks and even roots being shipped to Jerusalem from the Plain of Sharon which I am convinced were for this purpose. Luxor is noted for the manufacture of spurious Egyptian antiquities. Much of the ancient jewelry is made in Germany. If he thinks you are foolish enough to believe him, the donkey boy will throw one of a handful of manufactured beetles to the sand and pretend to find it under your feet. I saw this done only once, and I am in hopes it has been played out.

In contrast with all this fraud and the misery typified by the beggars you may see crushing with their teeth the vermin which infest their rags. I like to think of the children in the mission schools, orphanages, workshops of various denominations, which one may see if he takes the trouble to visit them in Egypt, Palestine and Asia Minor. The colony of the Zionist Jews in Jerusalem is another. Beirut in Syria and Roberts College in Constantinople are others. These are but a few of the centers from which go out influence which are changing this Orient as the irrigation canals are making the desert fertile. Schools, colleges, printing presses, hospitals, churches, there is no blight in gifts to these, but only the richest blessing.

HOW SHE KNEW.

A man who says he has never attempted to deceive his wife declares that there is no use in trying, that a married woman is as skillful as a mind reader. He says he discovered this before he was married, and consequently has avoided lots of trouble. In giving his experience he relates that while in Chicago, where he was employed before his marriage, he met a lady from Salt Lake City, his former home. In their conversation she stated that the city was to have a new opera house.

"Oh, yes," remarked the young man, "I knew that. I hear from Salt Lake every day."

The young woman smiled and said: "So when you go home on your summer vacation you are going to get married?"

The young man protested that it was a secret, though a fact, but that neither he nor his fiancée had told anybody about it.

"Why, you told me yourself, answered the newly-found friend. You see, no matter how fond your brother may be of you, or your sister or mother or anybody else, none of these would send you a letter every day. Only one person would write you so regularly, and that is the girl you have promised to marry."

SUMMER CARE OF PALMS.

How to Protect Them From the Blazing Sun and Make Them Thrive.

It is a mistake to put palms out of doors in the blazing sun and keep them there all summer. This is a common treatment, most people arguing that, being tropical plants, they can stand any amount of heat. What is the result? The leaves blister, and the plant itself ceases to thrive.

If you have a veranda keep your plants upon them and do not let them dry out. Remember that our summer atmosphere is as drying as furnace air, and evaporation of pot plants is rapid. Give a thorough watering once or twice a day.

If you have no veranda and have a corner of your yard turn it into a protection for your palms—if you have many of them. Make a wooden frame of four posts, to which are nailed wooden slats about an inch apart.

Attach a canvas or even cheesecloth screen or blind to the frame in such a way that it can be rolled over the top and down one side.

Plunge the pots of your palms or indeed all your foliage house plants, such as rubber plants, aspidistra, dracaenas and araucarias, into the ground up to the rims of pots. This keeps the soil moist at an even temperature, there is less evaporation, and the tender plants are gradually accustomed to a change of temperature and different conditions of light and air.

The direct heat of the sun is kept off by the screen and by the light that filters through the slats. Less watering will be necessary than when on a porch, but it is well to give a daily spraying to keep off insects and to keep the leaves free of dust.

How to Protect Lilies From Worms. Worms and underground insects prey upon lily bulbs. The following simple method is a preventive: Prepare the lily bed by thoroughly mixing well rotted manure with the soil. Dig holes a foot and a half apart and six inches deep. Put half an inch of sharp sand in the bottom of each hole, then put in three or four bulbs to the hole. Add enough sand to make a covering of half an inch over the bulbs. Be sure that every part of them is well covered. Fill in the rest of the hole with earth from the flower bed. The worms will not penetrate the sand.

Got on His Nerves.

Frugal North Briton (in his first experience of a taxi)—Here, mon, stop! I have a weak heart. I canna stand that bang't wee machine o' yours markin' up thae tuppences.—London Punch.

DAMES AND DAUGHTERS.

Hannah Huggill, a fifteen-year-old girl of Yorkshire, England, has received a medal for her bravery in saving her mother from an infuriated bull by prodding the animal with a pitchfork.

Mine Novikoff, who has been called the "M. P. for Russia," is famous the world over for her political articles. It is her custom to live six months in the year in England and six months in Russia.

The first woman to preach in Hungary is Julia Vargha, whose sermons are reported most favorably in the Budapest papers. She is the daughter of a bishop, and her sermons are delivered in Klausenburg.

Mrs. Mary Emery, widow of a millionaire realty dealer of Cincinnati, has purchased a two-acre tract of land in that city to be made into a park solely for birds. Mrs. Emery intends to spend \$250,000 on the little park if necessary.

Mrs. Taft, wife of the president, is a full fledged baseball "fan." She is as enthusiastic about the national game as is her husband. She knows the game thoroughly, it is reported, and can discuss its fine points with almost the ease of a professional.

Mrs. A. D. Winship of Racine, Wis., is the oldest "freshman" in the United States. She is seventy-nine years old, has taken up a course in psychology and literature at the Ohio State university and plans a course that will keep her intellectually busy for some years.

Fly Catches.

When Connie Mack let Jimmy Walsh get away from him he lost a live one. This lad is knocking the boards off the fence at Baltimore.

On July 25, 1896, Harry Davis played first base for Pittsburgh against the Giants. He's the Harry Davis who is still playing with the Athletics.

Bob Gilks, who is one of the best scouts in the business and one of the best judges of ball players, says that half of the success of Ty Cobb is due to his nerve and confidence in himself.

Daubert, Brooklyn's new first baseman is one of the numerous crop of left handed men who are now taking jobs on first. He is not a Hal Chase in speed, but is a wonder on long foul flies and a whale of a batter.

No professional player wears a mustache now. It's an unwritten rule of the profession to play the game without either beard or mustache. Outfielder Titus of the Phillies was the last National league player to discard his mustache. He had it removed two years ago.

Tales of Cities.

As regards area New York city is the largest in the United States. It covers 326 1/4 square miles as compared with 190 1/4 for Chicago and 120 1/4 for Philadelphia.

The streets of Canton are divided into sections of a few blocks each, and each section is shut off from all others by heavy gates that are closed at 9 o'clock in the evening.

Troy, N. Y., has a huge water wheel sixty feet in diameter, with buckets twenty-two feet long and six feet deep. It was constructed in 1838, and the people will not permit it to be destroyed, although it no longer serves any useful purpose.

State Lines.

Illinois has more than a million and a half of horses, worth a little more than \$100 each.

Missouri produced last year more than half a million pounds of tobacco, worth 12 cents per pound.

Kansas annually produces about 90 per cent of the material from which white brooms are made in the United States.

So large is the Italian population of Rhode Island that all important official documents in the state are printed in English and Italian.

British Briefs.

A complete set of British birds' eggs is worth about \$1,000.

No English prison governor's salary is higher than \$3,500 a year.

The governors of Australia and Canada receive \$50,000 each yearly.

Officers of the civil service in New South Wales must insure their lives.

In the course of a year 690,554 pounds of opium find their way into London.

Children in New York.

There are 1,125 children in one block in Chicago. Contrast the entire length of New York's Fifth avenue, please.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

New York babies are being shipped to New Orleans by carloads. Down south the mother of ten children has always room for one more, while a single infant in New York is looked upon as a misfortune.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Comparisons.

In New York 202 persons were found sleeping in one house. Milwaukee tenements are not so bad, after all.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

New York's world's fair of 1913 will be a nice little orchestral opening for the exposition at San Francisco.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Over 300,000 persons can be accommodated at one time in the hotels of New York city. This must almost equal the ability of Los Angeles along the same lines.—Los Angeles Times.

COPPERHEAD'S 1,400 FOOT LEAP.

Strange Snake Story from Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Two Wysox (Pa.) men had a thrilling experience on Table Rock Mountain, one which they will not care to repeat.

As they were walking on the mountain they came upon a large copperhead snake which was enjoying a sun bath about 100 yards from the rock which gives the mountain its name. The men looked around for stones, but none that they could handle to good effect could be found, nor was there a good club at hand.

Taking sticks of good length they attacked the snake, which showed fight and struck at both men. Falling to land and not liking the lashing of the sticks his snakeship started for the edge of the mountain overlooking the river which flows at the base, some 1,400 feet below.

Reaching the edge of the table rock which hangs out from the mountainside a considerable distance, the snake arranged itself in a peculiar shape and then with a hiss half jumped, half squirmed out into the air. The men rushed upon the shivering rock and peered over and watched the fearful descent of the snake, expecting to see it strike the trees or protruding rocks down the mountain side, but it missed all these obstructions. It was not thought possible the snake would clear the Lehigh tracks, but as the distance was covered the snake seemed to straighten out and, as the men yow, crawled through the air and succeeded in landing in deep water with hardly a splash.

While they were watching to see if the snake came to the surface one of the men became dizzy from peering over the edge of the rock and would have followed the snake's awful example had not his companion caught him just in time.

Some idea of the distance traveled by the copperhead can be had when it is known that but few boys or men can throw a stone so that it will strike in the river as the snake did.

X-Ray Traps a Liar.

"Doctor, do you ever do anything for charity? I am an awfully poor woman and have heart trouble. Won't you please examine my heart with the X ray free of cost?"

This plea was made to-day by a poorly dressed woman of about 65 years old to Dr. George Hermann of Corryville. Happening to look a little lower than the heart he discovered two \$20 gold pieces in a chamol bag under the woman's garment.

"How is my heart, doctor?"

"Your heart is pretty bad," he ejaculated with a tinge of sarcasm.

"Is there any hope for me?"

"Not if you keep on this way," he declared as the third \$20 gold piece came into view. "I really mean that you had a bad heart. You lied when you said you were poor. Take that money out of your waist and pay me \$5."

The woman nearly collapsed, but she took out the \$30 in gold and from another part of her raiment drew out a purse containing bills.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Where Father Got Stung.

One afternoon not long ago, in the vicinity of Druid Hill Park, in Baltimore, there might have been seen a young man industriously pushing up and down a baby carriage, intently reading a book the while.

"Henry! Henry!" called a young woman from the second story of a house opposite.

Henry heard not, but continued to push the baby carriage and to read his book.

In about an hour the cries for "Henry" were repeated.

"Well, what do you want?" he demanded, rather impatiently.

"Nothing, dear," was the irritating response, "except to inform you that you've been wheeling Harriet's doll all the afternoon. I think it's time for the baby to have a turn now."

HILDA THE HELPER

I.—The Town Can't Do Without Her

Hilda the Helper is a girl who has a way about her that makes her precious as a pearl. THE TOWN CAN'T DO WITHOUT HER.



She's always ready on the spot where anything is doing, with all the energy she's got her share of work pursuing.

Hilda the Helper HELPS THE TOWN in many lines of action. (No wonder young Philander Brown admits she's his attraction.)

Some single suits to clean up stock, at Menner & Co.'s store, will be sold out regardless of cost. 4w

Roll of HONOR

Attention is called to the STRENGTH of the

Wayne County SAVINGS BANK

The FINANCIER of New York City has published a ROLL OF HONOR of the 11,470 State Banks and Trust Companies of United States. In this list the WAYNE COUNTY SAVINGS BANK

Stands 38th in the United States
Stands 10th in Pennsylvania.
Stands FIRST in Wayne County.

Capital, Surplus, \$455,000.00

Total ASSETS, \$2,733,000.00

Honesdale, Pa., May 29, 1908.

A. O. BLAKE,
AUCTIONEER & CATTLE DEALER
You will make money by having me.
BELL PHONE 9-U Bethany, Pa.

D. & H. CO. TIME TABLE--HONESDALE BRANCH

A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
8:30	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00
10:00	12:15	12:30	12:30	12:30	12:30	12:30	12:30	12:30
1:20	7:25	4:40	1:20	7:10	4:40	1:20	7:10	4:40
2:05	8:15	5:30	2:05	7:55	5:30	2:05	7:55	5:30
5:40	9:05	6:20	5:40	8:45	6:20	5:40	8:45	6:20
5:50	9:15	6:30	5:50	8:55	6:30	5:50	8:55	6:30
5:54	9:19	6:34	5:54	8:59	6:34	5:54	8:59	6:34
6:11	9:36	6:52	6:11	9:18	6:52	6:11	9:18	6:52
6:17	9:42	6:58	6:17	9:24	6:58	6:17	9:24	6:58
6:23	9:48	7:04	6:23	9:30	7:04	6:23	9:30	7:04
6:26	9:51	7:07	6:26	9:33	7:07	6:26	9:33	7:07
6:32	9:57	7:13	6:32	9:39	7:13	6:32	9:39	7:13
6:35	10:00	7:16	6:35	9:42	7:16	6:35	9:42	7:16
6:39	10:04	7:20	6:39	9:46	7:20	6:39	9:46	7:20
6:43	10:08	7:24	6:43	9:50	7:24	6:43	9:50	7:24
6:46	10:11	7:27	6:46	9:53	7:27	6:46	9:53	7:27
6:49	10:15	7:31	6:49	9:57	7:31	6:49	9:57	7:31
P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
10:50	8:45	10:50	8:45	10:50	8:45	10:50	8:45	10:50
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