

## ACROESUS' CHATEAU

Vanderbilt's Palace in the North Carolina Mountains.

A Lordly Domain Amid Wildly Picturesque Scenery.

George Vanderbilt's country residence is within a few miles of Asheville, N. C., a spur of the Blue Mountains. His new home, which has been building for four years or more, is now practically completed. The house is an imposing gothic structure of Indiana sandstone. It is the most impressive and commanding of the many residences belonging to the Vanderbilts.

The mansion is not long and low and rambling as most Southern dwellings are. Instead, it rises to the height of four stories, not counting the lower floor where domestic work is done, or the story next to the roof. But it is broad and long and impressive.

Mr. Vanderbilt was largely his own architect, and the result would indicate that he is not a bad one. He has been courageous enough to borrow liberally from others, but mainly from Switzerland, for the house as seen from a distance resembles an Alpine chateau. The massive mountains near by add to this impression. The halls in it are as wide and lofty as those in the old houses in England. There are no small rooms. The dining halls are immense. There are no less than fifty guest-chambers, an indication that Mr. Vanderbilt does not intend to be a hermit in his mountain home.

There are several large rooms, evidently intended to be reception-rooms, and there is a huge ball-room looking out upon the mountains, showing a most romantic scene by light. The baths are of marble, mined from the mountains near by, and the whole interior is rich in appearance and arrangement. The stables at a distance alone are finer than many modern houses, and the kennels—for there is yet game in the mountains—are on a plane with the other buildings.

Withal there is nothing glaring or garish about all this. Many modern houses would look ridiculous in the midst of the wild mountain scenery, but Mr. Vanderbilt has been fortunate enough to bring about harmony and to make his splendid home appear a natural part of the scene presented.

No one but Mr. Vanderbilt himself knows what this has cost him. The amount is small compared with what it would have been had the estate been in the North. Land in western North Carolina when Vanderbilt purchased was ridiculously low. So were all sorts of ordinary labor, for skilled labor had to come from the North at Northern rates of wages. But the building material was right at hand to be cut or mined, and nature herself had been the surveyor and landscape gardener as well.

From his library window Mr. Vanderbilt can see the Blue Ridge, the Alleghanies and their tributary mountain ranges rising and stretching away in the distance. He can see Mount Pisgah raising its pine-clad head more than 6,000 feet above the plateau. Black Dome, Clingman's Dome, Mitchell's Peak, and a score or more of giants are near by. Between these, like silver threads, run the French Broad, the Hiwassee and near half a dozen other rivers. He may see if he wishes the spots over in the Tennessee mountains that have been made in a way famous by the charming stories of Charles Egbert Craddock. And here and there he may see the cabins of the mountaineers.

Mr. Vanderbilt's place contains about 20,000 acres in the immediate grounds or park. Several miles beyond he owns on Mt. Pisgah and in its neighborhood about 100,000 acres more, intended for use as a hunting and shooting preserve.

George Vanderbilt is the student of the family. He is an ardent lover of books and nature, is unmarried, is 38 years old, and is worth \$1,000,000 for each year of his life.—Chicago Times-Herald.

### A Victim to Etiquette.

The rigid etiquette which prevails in Korea as to ceremonious banquets is inconvenient for strangers, whose untrained appetites, says Youth's Companion, are scarcely up to the Korean standard. An artist, making a stay in Seoul, was bidden to a royal feast at the king's palace, to his mingled joy and despair. Ignorant of native customs, he appealed to Mr. G., the English Consul, to guide him through the ordeal. The one thing impressed upon him was this: "It is a great insult to refuse what is offered you at table, and a greater insult not to eat at all on your plate." The account continues:

We all sat down gaily, and the feast began. All the products of the country seemed to have been cooked and put before me, including meats, fish, honey, sweets, vegetables and sauces, of which, mind you, we had to eat "mountains" piled on our plates. Young pigs, in the puppy state, were also there, and were much appreciated by my princely entertainers.

When I was but half way through, however, not being provided with an ever-expanding digestive apparatus, like my friends of Cho-sen, I really felt as if I were suffocating.

I raised my eyes pleadingly to Mr. G., but he shook his head sternly. The servants, seeing me hesitate, plied me busily with potatoes, barley, millet and at least half a bushel of beans. After vainly praying for courage and dexterity to slide the food under the table, I made desperate inroads upon the heaped-up vegetables. Once again I rolled my eyes in dumb entreaty toward the consul, who once again shook his head, this time with a sardonic grin which made me determine to get through the feast somehow, but in silence.

After this I was treated to lily-bulbs and radishes dipped in the vilest of sauces, besides a large portion of a puppy-pig roasted, and fruit in profusion, with foreign and native wines. At length, when I felt that with the next mouthful I should groan aloud, the end was reached. That unhappy meal began at noon, and was brought to a close at 7 p. m.

To those who appreciate the pleasure of eating, let me recommend a royal Korean dinner. No pen can describe the agonies I endured as I was carried home in my green sedan-chair. For days I scarcely ate a mouthful, and to this day the sight of a puppy-pig is unbearable.

### Wears an Aluminum Ear.

We have had people with glass eyes, porcelain teeth and artificial whiskers, and now along comes a man with an aluminum ear. He is sixty-three years of age and was admitted into the Queen's Hospital, at Birmingham, England, in April, 1893, with an epithelioma of the left auricle.

The greater part of the diseased ear was cut off by the attending surgeon and a plaster-of-paris cast was taken of the left side of his head. Then an artificial ear was built up in wax to match the healthy one on the opposite side. The bogus ear was then made in vulcanite and aluminum, tinted and enamelled to harmonize with the complexion. No artificial contrivance, such as a spectacle frame, was made use of to support the aluminum ear, and adhesion to the head was affected by means of a saturated solution of mastic in absolute alcohol.

The man now can hear as well as ever, but he takes care to sleep on his right side at night so as not to break off his new ear. At the same time he has no fear of having it frost-bitten, and he is probably the only man alive who could even partly comply with the request of Marc Antony: "Lend me your ears."—New York World.

### Why Red Looks Black at Dusk.

When the luminosity is gradually reduced, the various colors in great measure disappear, a person with normal vision passing through a stage of red-blindness, as the intensity is diminished before he arrives at absolutely monochromatic vision. Captain Abney points out that the curious color of a moonlight landscape is entirely accounted for by this fact. While light becomes greenish-blue as it diminishes in intensity, and the reds and yellows, being reduced or absent, are not reflected by surrounding objects. Hence, moonlight is cold, while the sunlight is warm, owing to their presence. The loss of colors in flowers as night draws on may be easily followed. Thus orange-colored flowers may be plainly distinguished, while a scarlet geranium appears black; green grass will be gray when the color of yellow flowers may yet be just visible.—London Lancet.

### An Impatient Couple.

A swarthy Italian and his wife came into the Fitch Hospital the other afternoon and placed a ten-months-old baby, which was about as long as a pine-apple, on the operating table. The doctors examined it carefully and not being able to find anything wrong with it asked the parents what the matter was. "Oh, nothing," they answered, "only it can't walk." And the doctors laughed a hearty laugh at the idea of expecting a baby to walk when it is scarcely old enough to cry.—Buffalo (N. Y.) Courier.

The peace footing of the Russian army calls for the services of 170,000 horses.

## HATS AND PARASOLS

BROAD EFFECTS THIS SEASON'S FEATURE IN MILLINERY.

Large Hats Are Stylish—Fashionable Colors on Feminine Headgear—Many Sunshades—Odd Skirts and Waists.

THE tendency in the milliner's efforts this season is all toward broad effects and the trimming of nearly every style of hat or bonnet leans that way. The tiny Dutch bonnets set so far back on the head that they seem lost in front and worn at teas and receptions and in the evening for young maids and matrons, too, the natty Napoleon, trimmed toward the back or front, as fancy dictates, is a favorite. The large hats are stylish to a degree and a model in black satin braid, had short thick plumes falling on either side, one resting on the edge of the brim toward the front. A band of velvet with rhinestone buckle and bunch of violets at the back and underneath the brim a cluster of roses completed the trimming. The demand for made hats admits of considerable originality in the manipulation of the straw braid and with the kind known as patent leather exquisite jet effects may be obtained without the weight of the real article. Black and white and black and brown are frequently found combined, the tint of the latter used being Havana. Butter color fancy straw is also fashionable, especially for young girls' hats. Ribbons and flowers for the most part form the adornment of the spring hat, the Dresden and striped effects in the latter being especially handsome, while the flowers are the most perfect imitations of nature's productions, some of the makers going so far as to imitate dying nature, and withered leaves, and dying roses are among the seasons novelties. A beautiful model for a hat is of white lace and net, the brim slightly projecting and trimmed with soft net and sprays of orchids, and another is quite a flower toque, velvet pascies being combined with the lace. The bonnet pictured herewith is in maroon fancy straw, trimmed with roses, shaded from pink to green



A BONNET TRIMMED WITH ROSES.

and natural foliage, plaited maroon ribbon and jet ornaments. The center in front forms a point, resting on the hair. To be worn with or without strings.

These dainty millinery adornments and their fair wearers must be shaded from the sun's rays, and the parasols are on par with the prevailing beauty in the season's fashions. The sheer chiffon is lace and self-ruffled in various styles, and the Dresden comes severely plain and with a ruffle or two and bow on top. The shirred chiffons in light tints are lovely, the filmy fabric being a favorite, and a model in accordant plaited black chiffon won many admiring comments at a recent exhibition. For carriage use the much trimmed ones are carried, but the styles for street are very handsome, plain satin with insertion of heavy lace being among them.

### FOR STREET WEAR.

For street wear brocaded silk mohairs, berege poplin, Venetian cloth and illuminated serges will be much worn, with crepons in exquisite weaves of mohair and silk and all silk for calling and reception gowns. In the first mentioned style a beautiful model was seen in mohair of a gray shade, with old rose figure and glints of green through the weave; the skirt was exceptionally full, the godet plaits standing out beautifully and large rosettes ornamenting the side; the bodice was trimmed with a full collar of heavy Russian embroidery and the full effect was obtained by loose straps of old rose satin caught at the neck with rhinestone buttons; the plain high collar of satin has loops well toward the end. The sleeves were of mohair with full puff to elbow.

These mohairs come in all varieties of colorings and tints and in plain effects. In the poplins brown and white is found beautifully combined and a taking style shows the soft front of the bodice of white mousseline de soie, embroidered in buttonhole stitch, and intended to be worn with or without an Eton jacket. The cloth gowns, whether tailor-made or trimmed bodice, are beautiful, the exquisite texture of the fabric showing to excellent advantage and trimmed with heavy grass linen embroidered in all manner of styles or plain silk Tuscan and ornamented with buttons of rhinestones or cut steel they are extremely handsome.

### ODD SKIRTS AND WAISTS.

As odd waists and skirts are the

feature of the season new ideas in both are constantly cropping up. This style is now standard, and will continue for time indefinite. The summer promises to be the biggest cotton waist season yet known. Now we are wearing them of lace or net over silk; chiffon, gauze or crape over silk or satin; velvet, the soft finished liberty satin, striped and figured changeable taffetas and a few plaids in velvet and silk. All colors and combinations are worn in this useful garment. Sleeves are to the wrist or elbow and very large.



YOUNG GIRL'S WAIST.

Fancy collars and ribbon belts are worn. Gipsy lace yokes and epaulet ruffles abound, and in many instances a tiny fur edging finishes the lace trimming. Velvet and chiffon are combined with any material. Jet and ribbon are commonly used trimmings.

Some of the combinations are silk waist, velvet sleeves, narrow belt and collar and yoke of lace vandykes. Another has pink chiffon over pink silk, with pink satin ribbon bretelles and bows, as well as belt, and a light green collar. Mink edges the collar and outlines the bretelles and belt. Black chiffon, net or gauze waists are made over colored silk and trimmed with black satin ribbons and a colored velvet collar. The waists are full in effect, though made over a boned lining. Six yards of silk are now allowed for a waist and the same of chiffon.

### TAILOR-MADE GOWNS.

Nothing looks so decidedly proper as a tailor-made gown, either for church or shopping. Now that dress-makers control the gowns once more the tailor-made ones are no longer plain and severe. Whipcords and lightweight chevrons are the very thing for a shopping gown. For instance, a light mouse-gray whipcord, made with a skirt, a golet, not too wide nor overstiffened with horsehair, lined throughout with a good quality of silk and perfectly plain. The bodice fits tight to the back, the fronts are open and rounding, with a little basquine all around.

### MRS. STANTON'S QUEER EXPERIENCE.

In spite of her eighty years, Elizabeth Cady Stanton is hale and hearty still, and appreciates a good story as much as the youngest of her friends. The other evening she related an experience that befell her while lecturing in a Western city. She had retired shortly before midnight, and was just falling asleep when she felt a cold touch on her hand, and at the same time heard a voice that sounded distinct though faint saying: "Save me, mother!"

More curious than alarmed, Mrs. Stanton rubbed her eyes, got up and lighted the gas, and searched everywhere through the room, finding absolutely nothing. Then, concluding that it must have been an hallucination, she went back to bed again. But again the phenomenon was repeated, with the same icy touch and the same voice, that sounded nearer now, and repeated the singular words: "Save me, mother!"

All through the night at intervals this strange manifestation was repeated.



ELIZABETH CADY STANTON.

and once it seemed to her that she was held in a strong embrace, while the voice sounded close in her ears.

The next morning she repeated to the landlord the strange happenings of the night, and learned to her amazement that twenty-four hours before, in the very same room a young man had died of delirium tremens, and all through the hours of his agony he had called out, sometimes with moans, sometimes with shrieks: "Save me, mother!"

Now, if any one can explain this occurrence Mrs. Stanton will be glad to hear from him, for she admits frankly it is beyond her comprehension.

Placed end to end in a continuous line the streets of London would extend from the Mansion House across the entire continent of Europe and beyond the Ural Mountains into Asia.

## FORT DELAWARE RAZED.

ONE OF THE OLD LANDMARKS.

Its Battlements Dismantled, Its Walls Destroyed for a Torpedo Station.

One of the old landmarks that for three-quarters of a century has greeted mariners as they come up the Delaware River, is disappearing under the rapid work of a hundred laborers. Old Fort Delaware, where thousands of rebel prisoners were confined during the Rebellion, will soon be a thing of memory only. In a few months no part of the old brick and stone structure will remain.

Since 1823, Fort Delaware, foreboding and dismal looking, has stood on a low, marshy island midway between two states—New Jersey and Delaware. It was built at an enormous expense to the Government—nearly half a million dollars—and for all the good it has ever done its presence could easily have been dispensed with altogether.

The Government fearing that in times of war, Philadelphia would be a vulnerable point, erected Fort Delaware and stationed a garrison there. For seventy-five years sentries trod its ramparts, but in all that time not once did the fort's big guns spout forth shot or shell at an enemy. Only the boom of the sunrise and sunset gun awakened the echoes in two states.

Fort Delaware's record as a war prison is one of death and sorrow. Its grim walls, could they but speak would unfold a story of many stout hearts breaking—many brave men dying far from home and friends.

At one time in 1863, fifteen hundred rebel prisoners were confined within the fort. The mortality among them was terrible. Built upon a low, swampy island, whose vapors were laden with malaria germs, the deaths at one time numbered nearly one hundred in a month. The prison physicians did everything in their power to check the disease, but without much success.

There was one other cause of many deaths—a disease horrifying to contemplate. Strong, stout-hearted men came to the prison from the battle-field—men whose lives had been spent in roaming through the mountains of the Carolinas—they grew pale and haggard under restraint. Then they laid down and died—victims of nostalgia, or broken-heartedness, superinduced by home sickness.

There was a company of men from North Carolina in the mountainous country, who had been taken prisoners at the battle of the Wilderness. They had faced shot and shell and fought bravely. They were all big, powerful fellows, who trapped and hunted for eagle feathers covered nearly every head. Less than a month's confinement behind the cheerless walls of Fort Delaware made these light-hearted, happy mountaineers sullen and morose. Many of them broke down under the strain of captivity and one by one they died.

Where the old fort stands there will soon be erected a torpedo station at a cost of \$1,000,000. It will be constructed on the most advanced ideas and is calculated to prove a formidable barrier to an enemy as Fort Delaware would have been an easy mark.

—Grand Army Journal.

### THE GRAND ARMY IS GROWING.

The grim old Sexton gathers a good many of them in, and in time will gather them all, from all present indications there will be quite an accumulation before he officiates on the last one. Just now the Grand Army is getting ahead of him, and is gathering the old boys into its ranks faster by far than death is taking them out. There are still thousands of worthy comrades outside of the ark, but they are coming to their senses and getting in before the flood. At the last encampment of E. D. Morgan Post, No. 307, three first-class men, all of whom served honorably three years' term, were mustered into the ranks, and when asked why they had not joined before stated that they did not know the objects of the order—feared there was some politics in it—or that they were a lot of pension grabbers or short term men who had seen little or no service, but that now they knew what it really was they came to the front and enrolled themselves. There is not an encampment of Lafayette Post but that from one to a dozen are mustered in, and at the encampment of Hancock Post on Tuesday another came in, and so on more are on the waiting list. Nearly all that John A. Dix Post has taken in during the past two years are men of this stamp, and this is the general experience of many other posts in this city and Brooklyn.

A great many are kept out by their aversion to secret societies, but as the Grand Army is not strictly to be included in this category these objections are being gradually overcome. A Grand Army post represents a camp, and of course no one can get in or share its benefits without the password and countersign. It would be a queer camp in any service that would allow any one to pass the guard at will. There must be a password and countersign, and as well as in the field, this is about the whole of the secrecy. A good record of service, good character and an honorable discharge are the requisites for admission, and those not possessing them can keep outside the breastworks or stay in the house.

The reason why so many are still out is the fault of the comrades themselves. They will not trouble themselves to overcome the objections advanced, and thus thousands of comrades are lost to the order. The commander in chief and the Department Commander have issued string orders on this point which the comrades will do well to heed. There is plenty of good material outside the order yet.—New York Press.

### A Bit of Scandal.

This is a bit of genuine scandal. Everybody likes scandal. It is always such a comfort to find one's self a little better than one's neighbor. This bit of scandal is true, too. There is a young man now living in Chicago who used to live in Washington. He was engaged to a Washington girl, but rumors concerning her reached him out in Chicago. They said, these rumors, that she had gone out to supper after the theater, and looking on the wine when it was red, had become just a little bolsterous.

Her immaculate fiancée came to Washington. He did not say a word to her of the rumors which had filled his soul with horror, but he took her to the theater, and to supper afterward.

The widow Cluquot was the third party at the supper, and the girl, like every other woman on earth, likes champagne. Her sweetheart urged her to drink, assuring her it would do her no harm whatever. She drank. In fact, she conjugated the verb to drink in more than one tense. She became unmistakably intoxicated.

Then the gallant young man slipped her engagement ring off, bundled her into a carriage and took her home. She hasn't seen him since. Of course, he couldn't think of marrying that sort of a girl, you know.

It is things like that that keep one's belief in the innate chivalry of the modern gentleman from dying. We understand the man considers it a tremendous joke and you may be able to see where the laugh comes in. We are not.

## PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

Important Measures Considered by Our Lawmakers.

TRUESDAY—The Judiciary general committee of the Senate to-day unanimously decided to set affirmatively the Penrose resolution to Lexow Philadelphia, with the recommendation that the senate pass it. There was no discussion. Senator Osborn of Philadelphia, who has been the principal opponent, said he thought the investigation was not a necessity.

WEDNESDAY—The Penrose resolution for a Senate committee to "Lexow" Philadelphia, passed the Senate this morning with only one dissenting vote. That was cast by David Martin's Lieutenant Senator Osborn. Even Senator Porter voted in the affirmative. The resolution was reported from the Judiciary General Committee by Senator Grady, with the recommendation that it be adopted. The question was put by Lieut. Gov. Lyon, and the resolution was adopted by a viva voce vote without debate. These bills passed finally: Requiring the publication of all legal notices and advertisements required by law to be done by county officers; house bill authorizing the board of public buildings and grounds to set aside a plot of ground in the Capitol Park on which the Historical Association is authorized to erect a monument to the memory of Ex-Governor Curtin.

THURSDAY—The general revenue bill, prepared by the tax conference, was passed on second reading in the house to-day. It will probably go through the lower body, but it is said the senate will slaughter the measure. The bill passed practically as it came from the ways and means committee. The 1 mill tax on manufacturing corporations, mutual insurance companies, and building and loan associations was eliminated by the committee. The grangers had nothing particular to say about this.

The fight of the day was on the tax on foreign building and loan associations. The bill provides that they be taxed 2 per cent. Mr. Ritter of Philadelphia tried to have this reduced to 5 mills. He was defeated. Mr. Page of Dauphin suggested a 1 per cent. rate, but his amendment was beaten. Mr. Moore of Chester thought he could strike the happy medium by making the rate 8 mills. His compromise was objected to and the section was passed in its original shape.

### NEWSY CLEANINGS.

Civil war is brewing in Nicaragua. The fruit crop in Illinois will be large. Texas crops are suffering from a drought. Cholera has broken out at Mecca, Arabia. Commercial agents report trade improvement.

Erie Canal boats will be towed by electricity. There are 1964 distilleries in the United States.

The Japanese in Chicago gave a peace banquet. The United States contain 15,000 medical students.

Two rich silver strikes have been made at Leadville, Col. Rain fell at Hennessey, Oklahoma, for the first time since October.

It is said that only some 110,000 persons have filed income returns. The dreaded yellow fever has appeared among Spanish troops in Cuba.

Spain has declared that she will treat the Cuban revolutionists as anarchists. Rain is falling in the northwest part of Wisconsin, checking the forest fire.

New Orleans, La., will try to secure the next Democratic National Convention. A Nebraska farmer plowed up an iron teakettle the other day containing \$3000 in gold.

Collector George H. Hall, Jr., of Buchanan County, Missouri, is short in his accounts \$18,400.

Henry Williams, of Hillsboro, Texas, killed his wife because she refused to get up and make breakfast, and poisoned himself.

The setting aside of 60,000 acres of school land by North Dakota, on the Yukon reservation, has caused a bitter feeling among intending settlers.

The new mantel and fireplace for "The Breakers," at Newport, R. I., Cornelius Vanderbilt's private residence, is of terra cotta, seventeen feet high and cost \$75,000.

The keeper of the Trigg County (Kentucky) Poorhouse has secured a minister, at his own expense, to preach to the inmates of that institution, of which he has a charge, every second Sunday.

In Texas the cotton weevil has survived the winter and will do great damage. It will reduce the cotton yield twenty-five per cent. this year. The Government has sent experts to study the situation and Texas is urged to take action as a State.

The great wheel at Earl court, London, imitated from Chicago's great Ferris wheel, is finished, with the exception of the wood work. It is said to be an improvement and is much larger than the Chicago wheel and has sixteen millions in building.

A large wholesale butcher, of New York City, said that the consumption of beef had fallen off thirty per cent, since the recent advance in price. The advance was only ten per cent, but would have been much more had the consumption remained the same.

World's Fair diplomas awarded to exhibitors whose exhibits were favorably mentioned by the judges are being prepared at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and will be sent out in about sixty days, together with the medals now being struck at the Philadelphia Mint.

Papers have been filed in the United States Court of the Western District of Wisconsin, by the attorneys for the Sterling Remedy Company, of Chicago and New York, in a suit for stoppage and damages against an imitation of No-to-bac, the tobacco habit cure. The action is brought against a concern called the Eureka Chemical Company, of La Crosse, Wis.

### Can a Plant See?

I was tending some of my morning-glory vines that were growing near a fence upon which I had small cords attached. All of the vines had climbed up the cords except one, or rather a large branch from one of them, which hung out about fifteen inches. It was swaying around, and appeared to be reaching for a slender pole that leaned against the fence at least a foot away from it. I was busy some time in the vicinity of this, and would occasionally glance in the direction of it. It seemed to me that the vine saw the pole and endeavored to catch hold of it with its little hooked hand, for it swayed over as near as an inch from it, and I felt sure that the little hand meant to hold on as soon as it got near enough. I became so interested that I sat down quite near, intending to watch it until it succeeded, for I thought it would. But I was called away to meet a visitor, and when it was released it was near ten time, and in discharging the many little obligations of the hour I forgot my vine. The next morning I hurried to look at it, and, sure enough, it had caught hold of the pole and wound itself three times around it. I think the vine saw the pole.

Miss Old—"I would never get married if I had to ask the man." Miss Peart—"Maybe you wouldn't then."—Philadelphia Inquirer.