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GENEROSITY.

William H. Vanderbilt Cancels Gen. Grant's Indebtedness

By Making it a Present to Mrs. Grant.

She, With Equal Generosity, Refuses to Accept the Gift.

But he Will Not be Defeated in His Purpose

And Turns it Into a Life Annuity for Her.

The Swords and Historical Mementoes to Belong to the Government at the General's Death.

VANDERBILT'S GENEROSITY.

New York, January 11.—The following letter was sent Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant by Mr. W. H. Vanderbilt:

90 FIFTH AVENUE, January 11, 1885. Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant—Dear Madam:—So many misrepresentations have been made in regard to the loan made by me to General Grant and reflecting unjustly upon him and myself, that it seems proper to recite briefly the facts. On Sunday, the 4th of May last, General Grant called at my house and asked me to lend him \$500,000 for one day. I gave him my check without question, not because the transaction was businesslike, but simply because the request came from General Grant. The misstatements which were made in the next twenty-four hours aroused the sympathy and regret of the whole country. You and he sent me within a few days' time deeds of your light property to cover this obligation, and urged my acceptance on the ground that this was the only debt of honor which the general had personally incurred, and these deeds I returned. During my absence in Europe, the general delivered to my attorney mortgages upon all his own real estate, household effects and swords, mementoes and works of art, which were materials of his victories and presents from governments all over the world. These securities were in his judgment worth the one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. At his solicitation the necessary steps were taken by a judgment etc., to reduce these properties to possession, and the articles have been this day bought in by me, and the amount bid applied in reduction of the debt. Now that I am at liberty to treat these things as my own the disposition of the whole matter most in accord with my feelings is this: I present to you, as your separate estate, the debt and judgment I hold against General Grant; also the mortgages upon his real estate and all household furnishings and ornaments, coupled only with the condition that the deeds, commissions, medals, gifts from the United States, cities and foreign governments are all articles of historical value and interest, and shall, at the general's death, or if you desire it, sooner, be presented to the government, where they will remain as perpetual mementoes of his fame and of the history of his time. I enclose herewith the assignment to you of the mortgages and judgment, a bill of sale of the personal property and a deed of trust in which the articles of historical interest are enumerated. A copy of this trust deed will, with your approval, be forwarded to the president of the United States for deposit in the proper department. Trusting this will meet with your acceptance and approval, and with the kindest regards to your husband, Yours respectfully, W. H. VANDERBILT.

MRS. GRANT'S REPLY.

New York City, January 10, 1885.—W. H. Vanderbilt, Esq., 90 Fifth Avenue, Dear Sir:—Mrs. Grant wishes me to answer your letter of this evening, to say that while she appreciates your great generosity in transferring to her the mortgage given to secure my debt of \$500,000, she cannot accept it in whole. She accepts with pleasure the trust which you offer to the government of the United States at my death or sooner at her option. In this matter you have anticipated the disposition I had contemplated making of the articles. They will be delivered to the government as soon as arrangements can be made for their reception. The papers relating to all other property will be returned with the request that you have retained and the proceeds applied to the liquidation of the debt which I so justly owe you. You have stated in your letter to the minutest accuracy the history of the transaction which brought me in your debt. I have only to add in regard to your giving me your check for the amount without inquiry, as by an act of marked and unusual friendship. The loan was to me personally. I got the money, as I believed, to carry the Marine National bank over a day, being assured that the bank was solvent but owing to the unusual calls needed assistance until it could sail in its loan. It was assured by Ferdinand Ward that the firm of Grant & Ward had over \$600,000 to their credit at that time in the Marine bank besides \$1,000,000 of unpledged securities in their own values. I cannot conclude without assuring you that Mrs. Grant's inability to avail herself of your great kindness in making her sense of obligation on her own. Yours truly, U. S. GRANT.

VANDERBILT'S REPLY.

New York, January 11. General U. S. Grant, my dear Sir:—On my return home last night I found your letter in answer to mine to Mrs. Grant. I appreciate fully the sentiments which a noble both Mrs. Grant and yourself in declining part of my proposition. I greatly regret that she feels it her duty to make this decision, as I earnestly hope the spirit in which the offer was made would overcome any scruples in accepting it, but I must insist I shall not be defeated in the purpose to which I have given so much thought. I have so much at heart. I will, therefore, as fast as the money is received from the sales of the real estate deposited in it in the Union Trust company with the money thus realized I will at once create with that company a trust with the proper provision for an income to be paid to Mrs. Grant during her life, and giving her power to make such disposition of the principal by her will as she may elect. Very truly yours, W. H. VANDERBILT.

CAPTAIN PHELAN'S STATEMENT

HE IS POSITIVE THAT HE WAS THE VICTIM OF A MURDEROUS CONSPIRACY.

Special Telegram to the Bee. New York, January 11.—Captain Thomas Phelan, who was stabbed in O'Donovan Rossa's office, is very positive he was the victim of a murderous conspiracy, with Rossa, Pat Joyce, and "Rocky Mountain" O'Brien deep at the bottom of it. "I'll see about it when I get out again," he said threateningly. "When I went into Rossa's office, continued Phelan, telling the story of the assault, 'two men were sitting at a table writing on a yellow paper. I did not know either of them, nor did we exchange more than the common-place recognition. I sat in a chair with my back partially toward the door, and picking up a paper, began to read. It was my intention to swap Rossa's return. I had only been in the office a few moments when a man O'Brien came in. 'How do you do?' he said, shaking hands cordially, 'and now are matters looking in the west?' Oh, I am well. I answered not noticing the latter part of the question. He made some other trifling remark, which I do not now recall, and soon left the office. As he went out of the door I saw him nod his head to some one apparently standing in the hallway, whom I could not see. It struck me as being rather odd at the time. His steps had hardly died away when this other man, whom I always supposed to be a bookkeeper, for I never heard of him, rushed in with a knife and stabbed me in the back. Nothing occurred for any of us to quarrel about. I believe there was a casual conversation and that Short was chosen to carry it out.

FOR MEMORY'S SAKE.

Saturday's Greeting to J. J. L. C. Jewett, Henry Grebe and P. C. Himebaugh.

Chicago Socialists.

CHICAGO, January 11.—The mass meeting of the socialists held this afternoon at the West Tenth street Turner hall which was well filled. A. R. Parsons, August Spies and others less known in socialistic circles made speeches setting forth the theories of that class and urging the use of force for bringing the desired results about. The Daily News will publish the result of an investigation into the actual strength of the socialistic military companies of this city. First company, Lehr and Wehrverein had about thirty men at its last drill, the second company nine men and three boys at its last drill with one gun for the lot. The third company exists only in the socialistic imagination, and the same is true of the Greger Verein. The Bohemian sharpshooters had less than twenty at the last drill. The Daily News says that altogether they could not muster more than one hundred drilled and armed men and hundreds of the untrained are being fostered in the interests of an increased appropriation for the state militia. The police authorities, it says, laugh at the occasional reports published and say they can promptly suppress any outbreak of which the socialists are capable. The state board of the STATE LIQUOR DEALERS' protective association met this afternoon and decided to wait until the next session of the legislature to influence legislation in the liquor interests.

Going Out of Business.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, January 10.—The Cedar Rapids Insurance company will retire from business, the stockholders believing there is no money in the business at the rates caused by competition. The company is perfectly sound.

NEARING COMPLETION.

Work on the New Hammond Packing House at the Stock Yards.

A Bee reporter met last evening Mr. F. W. Young, an old beef packing man and at present engaged in the supervision of the erection of the new pork and beef packing buildings at the stock yards. Mr. Young has for the past few weeks been superintending the placing of the new steam fixtures in the buildings. He will remain in charge of the business after the erection of the buildings as chief engineer of the lard branch of the establishment.

PERSONAL.

A. H. Swan went east last night.

Peter Sonna and wife, of Bose City, passed through Omaha last night on their return trip from the east.

Deputy United States Marshal Frank Crow, who has been in Omaha for some time past, returned to North Platte last night.

Mrs. Harrison, daughter of ex-Governor Saunders, has been visiting this city during the holidays and returned to her home in Helena Saturday night.

A. W. Johnson and family, Superior, E. W. Peterson, Seward, C. S. Fosselman and wife, Beatrice, J. H. Sny, North Bend, Jas. H. Little, Wood River, Neb.; C. E. Hacker, Providence, R. I.; G. S. Carnes, Chicago, and C. C. Snow of Waiden, W. T., are stopping at the Metropolitan.

Entertaining His Friends.

Past High Priest Carter entertained his masonic brethren of Omaha Chapter No. 1, at his residence in this city on Thursday evening. Among the guests were O. S. Wood, 32d degree; Edwin Ward, 32d; F. B. Lowe, 32d; J. J. Points, 32d; J. N. Westberg, 32d; W. J. Mount, 32d; Gustava Anderson, 32d; Adolph Meyer, 32d; O. R. Turner, 30th; Moritz Meyer, 29th; C. F. Driscoll, F. W. White, Eben K. Long, John H. Butler, M. Parr, A. C. Lichtenberger, S. S. Preston, P. M. Hartson, J. D. Keith and W. E. Copeland.

The Musical Union Concert.

Yesterday afternoon the grand concert of the Musical Union orchestra was given in Turner hall. The programme presented a series of musical gems, each one delightful in itself. The programme given below was presented with full orchestral effect, and was received with great applause by the audience:

- FIRST PART. March—Egyptian..... Strauss Waltz—Eisabetha..... Rossini Waltz—Excelsior..... Mieux SECOND PART. Overture—Berlin waltz and nocturne..... Chopin Gavotte—Heinzelmannchen..... Eisenberg Selection—Muddy Day..... Brahms Concert Polka—Aurore..... Legendre Mr. A. Rohls. THIRD PART. Overture—Felsenmaehle..... Reisinger Violin Solo—Nocturne..... Chopin Selection—Patience..... Sullivan

YOU'VE NEVER SEEN THIS.

THE VOLTA BELT CO. of Marshall, Mich., offer to send their celebrated ELECTRO-VOLTAIC BELT and other ELECTRIC APPLIANCES on trial for thirty days, to men (young or old) afflicted with nervous debility, loss of vitality and manhood, and all kindred troubles. Also for rheumatism, neuralgia, paralysis, and many other diseases. Complete restoration of health, vigor and manhood guaranteed. No risk incurred as thirty days trial is allowed. Write them at once for illustrated pamphlet free.

CLOTHING ALMOST GIVEN AWAY.

30 PER CENT discount on all cash sales of winter clothing and underwear at Polack's, 1316 Farnam street.

Garneau's bread is the largest loaf for the money.

Garneau's genuine French bread.

FOR MEMORY'S SAKE.

Saturday's Greeting to J. J. L. C. Jewett, Henry Grebe and P. C. Himebaugh.

Wilson's Adventure With Two Highwaymen, Who Go Through His Pockets—An Amusing Interview.

At about the hour of 12 on Saturday night Mr. James Wilson, stenographer for the Lining & Metcalf agricultural implement company, met with an interesting adventure as he was on his way home in the north part of the city.

At Tenth and Pierce streets he passed two ugly looking men, and he had some suspicion that they were out on some crooked enterprise. As he walked along he looked around and saw that they were following him. A second time he looked back and saw that the villainous pair were gaining on him. When he looked around the third time he saw two pistols starting at him.

"Hands up!" ordered one of the highwaymen, for such they proved to be. "Gentlemen, you have the advantage of me," coolly replied Mr. Wilson, "and I comply with your request." And thereupon up went Wilson's hands. The highwaymen immediately proceeded to go through the pockets of their victim.

"Don't take any valuable papers or bonds out of my pocketbook," said Wilson laughingly, "that's all I am particular about."

"They secured \$1.75 in money and a valuable paper. Wilson politely asked them to return the paper, which they did. 'I have been connected with the English and American press,' said Wilson, 'and naturally enough I would like to interview you fellows. Why did you tackle me?'

"You kept looking around as if you had something you wanted to save. Well, I looked around to see if you were following me, and when I saw that you were, I thought it rather impertinent and was about to ask you what you wanted, when my gaze encountered your revolvers. I don't object very much to your robbing me, but can't you find some better way of making a living?'

"Not in Omaha," said one of the highwaymen. "I'll tell you something if you won't give it away. This is a good town to pick up fellows who go home drunk Saturday night. They generally don't have much money, but it all counts up in the long run."

"Have you made much money during the past month?" asked Wilson.

"Yes, a good deal. We have picked up quite a number of fellows who had money than you."

"Won't you give me my money back in consideration of the pleasant little talk we have had?" pleaded Wilson.

"Not by a d—d s'g't," was the reply. "Good night," said Wilson, as he proceeded on his way home, more amused than anything else at his little adventure.

KNIGHTS OF THE KEY.

Views of the Telegraph Operators on the Rumored Reduction.

For some time it has been vaguely rumored among local telegraph circles that a strike was brewing among the telegraph operators throughout the country. The rumors have been furnished for the most part by a certain foundation or alleged disaffection on the part of the telegraph operators or the recent reduction, and a vague feeling, which has been fed from time to time by various reports, that a still further reduction of 15 per cent. is to be made.

A reporter interviewed last night an old time operator, well posted on matters pertaining to the brotherhood both locally and abroad, with reference to this point. Said he: "I don't think in the first place, that there will be any further reduction. I don't think the company can afford to make it. But even if the reduction of 15 per cent. were to be made in the general wages, I do not believe that the telegraphers throughout the country would go out on a strike. Why? For the simple reason that they can't afford to. Here am I, (and I am situated like thousands of other telegraph operators throughout the country) with wife and children to support. I can't afford to throw up my position and running the very great risk of losing the butter that brings me bread and butter. Not until spring, at least, could a general strike be inaugurated with any safety, and even then, I don't think it will be. Our policy with the company will be one of evasion. We shall try and induce them to look over the situation and see that we can't live on the salaries we are receiving now, to say nothing of the proposed reduction of fifteen per cent. No, so soon as the present uncertainty passes away, we shall lay the matter before the company and ask them for a general raise in salaries."

"What are your hours of work?"

"That's another point. We have no stated hours of work. We have to stay by our posts until the work is done. Sometimes our working days are stretched out to fourteen, fifteen, even nineteen hours a day. It is wicked folly for the company to economize by cutting down the salary of the telegraph operators."

Garneau's genuine French bread.

Now buy Fire Kindlers and economize on coal.

Buy your bread of the reliable firm of Uraul & Schwab, 1109 Douglas street. The cheapest bread and the largest loaf for the money.

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Use Omaha flour—"Union Pacific."

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A MIDNIGHT MEETING.

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