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LARGE CITY ESTATES.

PROPERTIES TIED UP IN THE HANDS OF TRUSTEES.

Tendency of Large Estates in the City of Boston—Life and Individuality of Property—Why It is So Frequently Held "in Trust."

The early part of the century, from 1812 down to 1848, was the era when many of the later millionaires were either young men just beginning at the lower rounds of fortune's ladder, or had ascended the first most difficult steps of the same, and began to see the prospect of independence within satisfactory reach. Some were of Boston origin, but many of these men had started out of homes of large families on some New England hillside, or in the small towns where progress was just beginning to change the primitive order of things to more modern methods and conditions. Sturdy and rugged, inured to hard labor, and early taught economy in the school of actual experience; with a fair amount of schooling, such as it was—and it was good and thorough as far as it went—and a light heart and scanty wardrobe, these boys went out in the world to seek their fortune. Many of them found it in Boston, where from the humblest capacities they rose to be heads of mercantile, manufacturing and other enterprises of a character and extent that were simply surprising. They became simply active instruments in the development of the business and resources of the country when the railway system began to make available their wonderful extent and riches.

To this class of adventurous, industrious and successful men of affairs came riches and possessions of various kinds, among them being real estate in the best business and residential sections of the growing city. Some, more clear headed than others, went more largely into the acquisition of real estate, judging that, with the inevitable large increase in population, land must become very valuable. Events justified their judgment. Some of these men returned to their early homes for wives, but the majority of them obtained helpmeets from among the families of their new homes. Children were born to them, for in those days it had not become unfashionable to have families. In cases large ones at that. These children had to be educated in a way superior to that of their parents, and in the course of this process acquired new tastes and habits. The sons, especially, must have a college course, with all that that often means to the sons of rich men who have large expectations. Of course it was not alone the sons of men who had come to Boston to seek a fortune that filled the colleges. The early Bostonians were also thrifty and money making, and raised large families, and left extensive estates. Many of their sons, as well as those of the former, inherited enough of the paternal energy and ambition to impel them to go into their father's counting rooms and become, in turn, great merchants or manufacturers; and it is to the credit of some of these families that even up to the present day their representatives are to be found in conspicuous positions either in trade or in the learned professions.

But it often happened that where the sons of wealthy parents settled down to trade the grandsons did not, and in time the family names faded out from the activities of our city, to be replaced by new ones. It is, perhaps, a fact that the majority of the sons of our wealthy people are little heard of after college graduation. Many of them have a distaste for trade; many choose professions where they only loiter among workers, having no real incentive, lacking ambition, to work; while others become mere educated nobodies, with a strong tendency to live extravagantly, and spend all the money they can command. The fathers of these drones, noting their unwillingness or incapacity for business affairs, will not leave them the control of property which they do not know how to manage, and, therefore, in their wills, leave their property in the trust of men or corporate bodies in whom they have confidence, for the benefit of their heirs, with, perhaps, reversion to their children. The incomes derived support these men, and, if they marry, their families, in good style. In some cases these legatees, having scholarly or artistic tastes, go abroad, live and bring up families of un-American children in England or on the continent of Europe. Cases of this kind are not infrequent.

Then there is the matter of sex in descent, and as daughters constitute about one-half the total of the children of rich people, their provision is quite an important factor in the creation of trust properties. Daughters of rich men are much sought after by dashing but adventurous wife hunters. Experience has shown that to dower a wife in her own control on marriage is to practically give her fortune to her husband. How to guard this property for her own benefit, and for that of her children, is the consideration of the prudent father. In his will, therefore, he leaves the daughter's share of his property in trust for her benefit, or for that of her children, with the right of reversion to the latter in the event of her death, the husband to have no control of the same, and the income to be paid directly to her or to her children under reversion. But even this careful method was found defective. Where the husband was unscrupulous and avaricious, and the reversion to minor children enabled him to obtain control of the property as their natural guardian in the event of his wife's death, cases occurred where death was hastened by cruelty and ill-usage on his part. To offset this, a considerable proportion of the property was in some cases left so that the wife could dispose by will of the same, though not otherwise dispose of it during her life.

There have been cases of trust and confidence in sons-in-law, where the latter have nobly carried out the wishes of the testator, and in some instances have administered the property of his wife for his own benefit is often so great as to be apparently irresistible. He can appropriate the income to his own uses, perhaps squander it, and when the time for the return of his accounts to the probate court arrives he can obtain the necessary vouchers from his wife, though he may not have given her 5 per cent. of the income. If she objects, he will say to her that he has lost the money in speculation, and if she does not sign the will he will be a ruined man, and forever disgraced in the eyes of the world. To save him from disgrace, therefore, she yields and lives the life of a martyr. Cases crop out from time to time which show that no matter how carefully the interests of daughters may be guarded, events will occur to neutralize the designs and desires of the testator.—Boston Herald.

A Big Pyrotechnic Treat.

An amusing story is told of a charitable lady here who planned a pyrotechnic treat the other day for a big orphan asylum just out of town. She invested \$400 in rockets, bombs, pinwheels, and more elaborate fireworks, such as were best calculated to distract the minds of beloved youth. A gentleman of her acquaintance was invited to perform the actual setting off of the combustibles, which, while the display was in progress, were piled on and around a chair in the lawn. He mildly suggested that it was dangerous to have them so near while the exhibition was being given, but the objection was overruled by the hostess on the ground that it was so much more convenient to have them ready at hand for use when wanted. So the entertainment proceeded, beginning with the lighting of a few Roman candles and other trifes, which were intended to serve as introductory to the more scrumptious and expensive fizzes.

A very few had gone off, to the inexpressible delight of the clemensinary small boys and girls seated on rows of camp stools at a little distance, when an envious spark chanced to drop upon the chairful of fireworks aforesaid, and immediately there ensued a catastrophe of the most appalling description. For quite a minute the entire landscape was ablaze. The operator and his assistants got behind trees to escape the bombs and rockets, which were discharging themselves in every direction at once, while the nonprojectile pieces formed a volcanic pyre in the midst, vomiting flames with incessant explosions. At length the eruption came to an end, and just as the last Roman candle was sputtering—while the generous entertainer and the gentleman whose aid she had invoked were ruefully regarding the remains of \$400 worth of paper and gunpowder—a messenger from the gathering of hapless orphans across the lawn appeared at the scene. Her remark was all that was needed to cap the melancholy climax.

"That last firework was an awfully pretty one," said the little girl breathlessly. "The children want to know if we can have another one next just like it."—Rene Baehle in New Orleans Picayune.

Cancer Among Vegetarians.

Surgeon Major Hendley, resident surgeon at Jalore, writes: "In The British Medical Journal of April 7, 1888, the following statements are made: 'M. Iclius has shown that cancer was all but unknown among the vegetarians of the island of Yeu, and believed that the increase of cancer was largely due to the carnivorous habits of diet of the past generation.' The records of the Mayo hospital at Jalore, which is under my charge, show no such immunity of vegetarians from cancer. From January, 1880, to the present date, 103 major operations have been performed in the hospital in cases of cancer. Of these, 41 were on the persons of meat eaters and 61 on those of strict vegetarians who had never eaten meat since their birth.

In India, where caste rules are exceedingly rigid, the fact that the latter were true vegetarians is absolute proof. Among them are six Saragis, a class of Jains who even reject many kinds of vegetables. Three of these Saragis suffered from cancer of the breast. Out of 103 cases there were 3 deaths attributable to the operation. There is no information available as to recurrence, or the contrary. The cases were divided as follows: Cancer of breast 20, tongue or lips 8, head and face 17, upper extremity 11, lower extremity 8, trunk 19, testicle 1, glands 3. There were 63 males and 40 females, a large proportion of the latter in a country where the purdah system is in force. The maximum age was 70 years, the minimum 18 years, the average 53 years."—British Medical Journal.

The Canadian and the Yankee.

I have been spending several weeks in Canada this summer, and have been making a study of Canadian life and people as much as is possible for a superficial observer. I have found much to interest and entertain—a little to amuse. To the average American, Canada is a terra incognita. I have been asked as absurd questions about Canada by Americans as I have by Canadians about the states. Just the border between us, and practically "strangers yet."

To the Canadian the Yankee is an object of mingled horror and fascination. He is horrified at his contempt for conventionalities, his outspoken scorn of "that divinity that doth hedge a king," the flippant allusions to the nobility and the whole royal family which are frequently heard on his lips, and at his general, free and easy, devil-may-care recklessness, so opposed to the cut and dried Canadian standard. Au contraire, he is rather fascinated by his originality, his independence, at which he marvels greatly, his prodigality, his generosity, and general bon camaraderie.—Edith Sessions Tupper.

Prevailing Ignorance in Italy.

The prevailing ignorance and superstition is appalling. As late as 1882, according to the official statistics, 54 per cent. of the male population over 20 years of age could neither read nor write. The filthiness, abject poverty and squalor of entire districts is indescribable, families being huddled together with chickens and pigs in one room hardly sufficient to afford protection from the weather, the wages being so low as to make it almost impossible to keep body and soul together, and absolutely impossible to leave the country or better their condition. A piece of white bread to them would be a grand feast. This wretchedness is not found alone among the marshy lands, but on the richest and most fertile plains of northern Italy, the horrible disease known as "pellagra" making the greatest ravages in Lombardy and Emilia. The complaint is little understood, but known to proceed from insufficient and unwholesome food, together with physical and moral uncleanness.—Florence Cor. Chicago Times.

Airships of the Future.

It has become quite common of late to estimate the future in the way of forecasting what inventions must occur. It has not so generally occurred to our prophets to tell us what civilization in its progressive movement will drop out. A recent writer suggests that we shall, in the next century, have very little use for horses. He supposes airships to be not only an achievement, but to be as common as wagons are now. The farmer has then only to hitch a load to his airboat, and lift it clear of trees, and move straight to market. The effect of navigating the air will, however, be most marked on urban life. Cities will no longer be needed to any such extent as now. The airship, avoiding streets, can make a location in the country as desirable for a great store as one in a city. Will not also a vast amount of land now needed for highways be given over to tillage? Go ahead, and give us the airship.—Globe-Democrat.

LEGENDS OF INSECTS.

WHAT POPULAR SUPERSTITION SAYS ABOUT THE BUSY BEE.

A Hindoo Tradition—Stolen Bees in Holland—Flies and Fleas—Gnats, Ants and Crickets—The Dainty Lady Bird—Divination.

No members of the animal kingdom are regarded by most persons with greater aversion than certain insects and reptiles. The folk lore of these branches of that kingdom is therefore a very extensive one. It frequently assigns to the minute members of the insect tribe considerable power for good or evil, and popular tradition even anticipated scientific discovery in the matter of insect intelligence.

Popular superstition has concerned itself much about that busy little insect, the bee. A Welsh tradition says bees came from paradise, leaving the garden when man fell, but with God's blessing, so that wax is necessary in the celebration of the mass. The ancients generally maintained that there was a close connection between bees and the soul. Porphyry speaks of "those souls which the ancients called bees."

There is a Hindoo superstition that the Rakshas or demons keep their souls in the bodies of bees. Many persons accord unusual intelligence to bees. They are said in parts of England and France to rever the consecrated wafer. They are also said to sing a Christmas hymn, beginning at midnight. They are said never to thrive in a quarrelsome family, nor will they stay with you if you quarrel about them or in their presence. It is a custom in many parts of England and Germany that if a swarm of bees settles on the dead branch of a live tree a death will occur in the family within a year. Stolen bees are said in Holland never to thrive. In some places in England it is thought unlucky to sell them. They are given away for another gift.

Flies are sometimes regarded as furnishing prognostications of the weather, and even of other events. Wilsford, an old naturalist, who writes much of popular import, says: "If they are busier or blinder than ordinary, sporting in the sun or showing themselves in warm places, it may be taken as a sign of hail, or showers of rain or wet weather."

Fleas are not too small to enter into popular lore. An abundance of them indicates rain, here and in England. Their eager biting also prognosticates wet weather. These tormenting insects are not without their benefits, according to the English fishermen, for they consider that an abundance of them indicates good hauls of fish.

Gnats are regarded by many as accurate weather indicators. Fair weather is said to be coming when they fly about in clouds in the sun's beams; heat follows unusual richness, and rain is indicated by their seeking the houses and biting fiercely. An abundance of these insects in the spring foretells a warm autumn.

Since the days of Solomon the ant has enjoyed quite a reputation as a worker. Mohammedans recognize its industry, and accord it a place among the ten animals that alone enter Paradise. Without mentioning his authority, Emerson says, in "Nature," that they never sleep. Ants' eggs were of old an antidote for love. It is said that they close their holes in the ground on the approach of a storm. If they are unusually frisky, wet weather is at hand. The migration of ants from low ground is said to indicate heavy rains, and stormy weather is imminent when they travel in lines, fair weather coming when they scatter abroad.

Superstition has been very busy with that common household insect, the cricket. Its lively and cheerful chirp has caused it to be generally viewed with favor. It is usually regarded as a good omen in England and Scotland. In Hull it is unlucky to kill them, and in Lancashire, it is said, they cut holes in the worsted stockings of those members of a family that kill them. In Shakespeare's time this notion that the presence of the cricket was a good omen, indicating cheerfulness and plenty, was a prevalent one.

The little insect commonly known as the lady bird or lady bug has been the object of many superstitious observances. Its name indicates its sacred character, it being everywhere the Virgin's bird, the lady cow, the lady fly, the lady's little beast, Mary's bird, God's calf, etc. Young girls, on seeing one, try to divine their lovers by it. The flight of the insect indicates the direction in which the lover is to be sought. German peasants also try to divine from its flight how they will fare in the next world. If, on being appealed to, it flies upward, they will go to heaven; if downward, to hell; or if horizontally, then purgatory awaits the questioner.

The insect known as "granddaddy long legs" is thought in this country to possess some mysterious knowledge. Children, on seeing it, ask it, "Granddaddy long legs, where's my cow?" believing that it will indicate the proper direction by raising one of its legs.

Spider superstitions are also abundant. They should not be killed. Spaniards, in the sixteenth century, believed that spiders indicated gold, where they were found in abundance. In Germany, it is said to indicate good luck to have a spider spring his web downwards toward you, but bad luck when he rises toward you. There are said to be no spiders in Ireland, nor will spiders spin their web in an Irish oak, nor on a cedar roof.—F. S. Bassett in Globe-Democrat.

Col. Robert C. Ingersoll's Idea.

Most people regard those who violate the law with hatred. They do not take into consideration the circumstances. They do not believe that man is perpetually acted upon. They throw out of consideration the effect of poverty, of necessity, and, above all, of opportunity. For these reasons they regard criminals with feelings of revenge. They wish to see them punished. They want them imprisoned or hanged. They do not think the law has been vindicated unless somebody has been outraged. I look at these things from an entirely different point of view. I regard these people who are in the clutches of the law not only as unfortunate, but, for the most part, as victims. You may call them victims of nature, or of nations, or of governments; it makes no difference, they are victims. Under the same circumstances the very persons who punish them would be punished. But whether the criminal is a victim, or not, the honest man, the industrious man, has the right to defend the product of his labor. He who sows and plows should be allowed to reap, and he who endeavors to take from him his harvest is what we call a criminal; and it is the business of society to protect the honest from the dishonest.—New York World Interview.

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THE G. M. JARVIS CO., Gentlemen: Chicago, July 7th, 1887.

I have made made a chemical examination of the sample of Jarvis' Pear Cider submitted to me a few days ago, and would report these points among others noted. The liquid is non-alcoholic and has a specific gravity of 10.65. The total extractive matter amounts to 10.25 per cent., containing only .025 per cent of free acid. The tests show this acid to be malic acid as usually found in fruit juices. I find no other acid or foreign substance added for color or flavor.

I believe it, therefore, to consist simply of the juice of the Pear as represented. Yours truly,
J. H. LONG, Analytical Chemist,
Chicago Medical College.

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