

# THE AMERICAN.

## A BACHELOR'S ERROR.

Harris Clark, the hero of this sketch, was neither wise, useful nor agreeable, and had lived life years alone, when he might have been blessed with God's best gift to man—woman.

Still, as Clark was decidedly a wealthy man, his friend Arthur Gould thought he would make an excellent husband for his sister who was slightly on the shady side of 30. So one evening finding him in his military apartments, looking downcast and miserable, Gould said:

"Clark, I know what ails you."

"What makes you think anything ails me?" gruffly inquired Clark.

"Because you are not lively and happy. You are lonely and want society. No one can enjoy life without companionship. In short, you need a wife."

"I've got along all these years without one, and I guess I can finish the same way."

"Because you have been a fool all these years is no reason why you should continue one."

"True!" said Clark. "Had I taken a wife twenty years ago I should have been happier today. But who would marry a old fellow like me now?"

"Many a nice girl would jump at the chance."

"I don't want an old maid," said this particular old bachelor. "Some pretty, bright girl might tempt me. But, then, this courting business I know nothing about, you see, and taking it on the whole I might pay too dearly in advance."

"Well," said Gould, impatiently, "on the whole, if the truth was known, I think you are a trifle too lazy to live."

"Why, I'm all ready for a bargain. Show me some of these nice girls you seem to think are so plenty."

"If you please to visit my family you will have an opportunity of meeting many ladies. I will introduce you to my sister, for one; she will introduce you to others, and—"

"Good! I'll spend tomorrow evening with you."

"We'll be glad to see you."

They parted, and Clark's thick head was full of new ideas. At 6 o'clock the next night he stood before his mirror trying necklace after necklace, and carefully parting what remained of his hair. At last he was fully equipped and started.

On his arrival he found none but the family present, and being introduced to the ladies, passed a pleasant evening. He watched every movement of the younger lady, and before leaving had concluded to seek no further for a wife, providing the charming Miss Gould could be persuaded to become Mrs. Clark. She was attractive, pleasing in conversation, and graceful in manner.

"She is the woman for me," thought Harris as he said good-night, promising to call soon again.

He went home from his second visit happier than from the first, for, in addition to his increasing admiration for the lady, he felt assured, by her evident exertions to entertain him, that his feelings were reciprocated.

One unfortunate circumstance must be explained before proceeding. Owing partly to Mr. Gould's carelessness in presenting the ladies as his wife and sister merely, and partly Clark's confusion in confronting two women at once, he had mistaken one for the other, and fallen in love with Mrs. Gould (decidedly the prettier of the two), and who, perfectly innocent of his error, strove to make matters pleasant in behalf of her sister-in-law. She noticed once or twice that he addressed her as Miss Gould, but knowing him to be a somewhat illiterate man, let it pass for a slip of the tongue.

Time passed, and Harris determined to speak. One evening he found Mrs. Gould alone, and was informed that "Arthur and sister" had gone to make

an early rendezvous, agreeing to meet next morning.

"My wife! Why, Mr. Clark, excuse yourself!"

The husband, just entering, caught the last words.

"What is the matter?" asked he, casting alarmingly from his wife to Clark.

"The matter?" replied the astounded author. "You know as well as I do. Your sister appears to have taken flight at something—I don't understand what."

"My sister? Why, that is my wife!"

"Your wife?" screamed Clark. "Why have you deceived me in this matter?"

"No one has deceived you, my dearest. You must have deceived yourself. That is my wife. This is my sister, pointing to the other lady now entering the room.

Poor Harris was struck dumb. He rose, seized his hat, made a low bow, and annihilated space between the Goulds and his own "bachelor's hall," where in a short time he was seated before a fire built of fancy necklaces, sachet bags, light gloves, and other superfluous articles of an old bachelor's toilet.

As to what he thought, said, or did after that time there is no account, but Mrs. Gould was his first love, and without doubt she was his last.—Emily Keating in Boston Post.

### CHINESE EMPEROR ON REFORM

**Wall of Weakness Such as China Has Not Heard in Two Hundred Years.**

A curious decree by the emperor of China has, says the London Times, just reached this country. It deals with the necessities of China at the present juncture, and is of great length. It opens by saying that since the war with Japan, a great number of memorials, from officials of all grades, recommending what should be done to strengthen the empire and maintain its integrity, have been received. But when any question of vital importance with foreign countries arises, these men who are so eager to advise are always found wanting. This is their condition now (pursues the emperor), just when the country is surrounded on all hands by powerful and crafty neighbors, who seek advantages and combine to overflow China, because they see that the defenses of the country are neglected and decayed, and that the fleet is small and insignificant. The main question, therefore, is reform and reorganization of the national defenses. The trouble is that the present resources of the country are insufficient for this purpose, and the deficiency in the exchequer seems to be very great. Lately, says the emperor, he sent out a decree ordering the provincial authorities to prevent peculation in the collection of likin, and to disband useless territorial regiments which only suck the life-blood of the provincial exchequers. The replies to this decree did not attempt to deal with either of these two vital points: nothing was done toward discovering the exact number of dummy names on the rolls, and things now are just as bad as before. When the present dynasty began to reign we are still summarizing the decree, and as far as possible using the emperor's exact words throughout the armies were enlisted from the whole population. No one then had ever heard of likin or miscellaneous duties, but there was no want of money and the troops were never wanting in their duty. At present there are many taxes, such as likin and the opium duties, yielding large sums, yet the ordinary expenses are not paid. This is due to extravagance. Reference is made to the revenue in 1853 and 1856, and the expenditure in those years, and a recent memorial is quoted from one of the presidents of the boards at Peking, in which it is proposed that a careful statement should now be prepared, so that superfluous expense may be dealt with systematically. In particular it is said that the practice of putting dummy names on the regimental rolls, the corruption in the likin and salt departments, and the sinecures for favored officials should all be dealt with, and the expenditure kept within the amount decreed in all departments. The emperor approves of these recommendations, and calls on the high authorities, in Peking and the provinces "to aid one another to serve us loyally in our time of distress, and not to attempt to shift off upon one another important duties just because it happens that different provincial boundary lines separate one from the other." Further these personages are adjured to remember the favors hitherto bestowed on them, and loyally and diligently to attain the ends the emperor is now striving for. Again, brave and capable officers are to be sought out elsewhere, and their names brought to the emperor's notice, that they may receive suitable commands. "Thus may we hope to obtain officers who, with their men, may be a human bulwark to the country against aggressive foes." It may be doubted whether any emperor for the last 200 years has ever allowed such an admission of weakness, or such a wall of helplessness, to be published to his subjects.

### Faith in the Invisible World.

To get the best enjoyment from earthly things, we need faith in the invisible world. That unseen realm includes the soul of God and the spirits of men. Christ is the true scientist for he shows that the physical and spiritual worlds are the twin hemispheres of a perfect universe. The purpose of His life is to increase our knowledge of God, and to reveal to us the ceaseless marvels of our own natures. The most accurate definition of self-knowledge is God-knowledge.

"Indeed! Then you think of marrying. I congratulate you. May I ask who is to be the honored lady?"

"That depends upon you. I have never met with one who inspired me with such esteem, such love, as your self. All I have is lay at your feet. Will you be my wife?"

He raised and wiped the perspiration from his forehead. Mrs. Gould

### The Only Railroad to Chicago.

With a Day Light Train. Leaves Omaha 6:37 A. M. every day arriving at Chicago the same evening at 8:15 where close connections are made with all lines beyond. This train is 20 years ahead of the Times and is moving immensely popular with Omaha people—Other flying trains leave for Chicago at 4:30 and 6:35 P. M. daily.

City Ticket Office  
1401 Farnam St.  
The Ninth Western Line.

### \$10 Reward.

I will give the above reward to any person, church or patriotic society that will, before the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1898, sell the largest amount of my Anti-Catholic books. Circulars and price lists sent on receipt of a two cent stamp. Money to accompany orders for books. Address

REV. J. G. WHITE,  
Stanford, Ill.

### Daylight Train to Chicago.

Beginning Monday, February 5th the Northwest Line placed in service a DAYLIGHT TRAIN TO CHICAGO leaving Omaha 7:00 a. m. Council Bluffs 7:25 a. m., and arriving in Chicago 5:45 p. m., making connections with evening trains for all points east. Dining cars serve all meals.

The afternoon limited trains at 4:45 and 6:30 arriving Chicago next morning at 7:45 and 9:30 a. m., respectively, still remain in service.

City ticket office 1401 Farnam St.

### RELIGION IN THE AMERICAN COLONIES.

An Essay by Chase Royo, throwing a blaze of light on American history—shows that the Jesuits were the cause of all the colonial wars, Indian and French massacres of those times, and helps you to properly appreciate the image of a Jesuit priest on our new one cent postage stamp. Pamphlet on SECTARIAN APPROPRIATIONS, Congressional, State and Municipal, same price.

In pamphlet form—Price 10 Cents.

Address: CHASE ROY,

Washington, D. C.

### No-To-Bac for Fifty Cents.

Guaranteed tobacco habit cure, makes weak strong, blood pure \$5.00 All drugs

For fifty cents we will send you a copy of the Atlas of the World, containing the latest and most accurate maps of Cuba and the Klondike country, besides a great deal of useful and valuable information. American Pub Co., Omaha.

Wanted, position by young man who speaks English and German. Good references. W. N. P. Hall, 1513 Leavenworth street, Omaha.

Fighting truth is an old trick of poverry; and it has become an adept at it.

W. A. SAUNDERS,

Attorney, Merchants National Bank.

### NOTICE TO NON-PES DEFENDANTS.

NOT ANTS—To Christians L'Hommedieu and Mr. — L'Hommedieu, her husband first and real name unknown, non-resident defendant.

You are hereby notified that on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1898, James L. Browne, the plaintiff herein, filed his petition in the District Court for Douglas County, Nebraska, to recover the sum of \$1,000.00 per annum from October 1, 1897, for which sum, with interest thereon to date of suit, he is entitled to recover, together with costs of suit, and attorney fees.

This is to satisfy a certain tax certificate dated November 25, 1897, upon the following described real estate to wit:

The west one-half (1/2) of lot seven (5) block four (4) in Shibley's First addition to the city of Omaha Douglas County, Nebraska.

There is now due upon said certificate the sum of \$20.00 with interest at the rate of ten (10) per cent per annum from October 1, 1897, for which sum, with interest thereon to date of suit, he is entitled to recover, together with costs of suit, and attorney fees.

Given under my hand and seal this 2d day of November, 1898.

JOHN W. McDONALD,

Sheriff of Douglas County, Nebraska.

W. A. SAUNDERS, attorney for Plaintiff.

Doc. 61, No. 29, Ex. 1 p. 22. 9-2-5

### W. A. SAUNDERS,

Attorney, Merchants National Bank.

### SHERIFF'S SALE.

Under and by virtue of an order of sale issued out of the district court for Douglas County, Nebraska, and to me directed, I will on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, A. D. 1898, at 10 o'clock A. M. of said day, at the front door of the Court House, in the City of Omaha Douglas County, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said order of sale, as follows:

Lot four, in block three hundred and sixteen, in the northwest quarter of the town of Douglas, surveyed, platted and recorded and sold, in a certain action then and there pending, wherein Harry J. Twining is plaintiff and the American National Bank of Omaha, Nebraska, a corporation organized under the laws of the United States, Samuel S. Curtis and Kate Bird Curtis, his dependents, defendants.

Given under my hand and seal this 2d day of November, 1898.

JOHN W. McDONALD,

Sheriff of Douglas County, Nebraska.

W. A. SAUNDERS, attorney for Plaintiff.

Doc. 61, No. 19. 9-2-5

### W. A. SAUNDERS,

Attorney, Merchants National Bank.

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