

Women Who Have Ruled at Capital

Of All the Charming and Stately Mistresses of the White House, Mrs. Grover Cleveland Is the Only One Now Living.

The passing of Mrs. William McKinley appreciably depleted the list of surviving White House ladies, to the point that they have become almost as few as living ex-presidents—and of this latter there is only one. While Mrs. McKinley, by reason of the continuing illness which had for many years beset her, could scarcely be looked upon as an active figure in social life at the executive mansion, her influence on the American nation, through the thoroughly sympathetic relations she enjoyed with her husband, was not slight.

There have, in the course of our comparatively very brief history, been gay White Houses and quiet White Houses. To the latter class belong the administrations of William Mc-



Martha Washington.

Kinley and Theodore Roosevelt and of some earlier executives. Of the former, Dolly Madison is generally looked upon as the most notable example, with the period of Grover Cleveland's occupancy of the throne as a close second by reason of the great public interest which attended his marriage with Miss Frances Folson.

The Roosevelt Regime.

Certainly, of recent years, the Cleveland regime must stand out as the most socially important, in any consideration of the activities of the ladies of the White House. Mrs. McKinley, practically an invalid, had not the strength necessary to the prosecution of a vigorous social campaign. Mrs. Roosevelt has not the inclination. She has been ever a retiring woman, content with her family and her home life, caring nothing at all for the pomp and circumstance that go with high office.

Whatever gaiety of the sort Washington expects from the executive family has been, in the main, due to Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, formerly Alice Roosevelt. That young woman enjoyed a national popularity which few ladies of the White House have ever exceeded.

An Everyday Heroine.

Lucretia Rudolph Garfield was essentially a hombody. She had been a school teacher in Ohio before she and James A. Garfield were married. She took no highfalutin notions to Washington, when she went there as the first lady in the land. She was a farmer's daughter, and her ways were plain. The Hon. A. M. Pratt, of Bayou, O., telling of the lives and loves of the Garfields some years ago, said: "Mrs. Garfield sought and taught scholars in painting and drawing in my, then very insignificant, village. She did not get very large classes and lived in my house, the guest and friend of my then wife. The future president was frequently entertained at my table; he a young, strong, great-hearted, large-headed youth, but two years from college, hopeful, full of life and push; she graceful, sweet, amiable, retiring, with a disposition as lovely as a star-lit sky—both poor. Their fortune was their youth, health, hearts, intellects, hope and, glad am I to say, love."

Mrs. Garfield before her elevation, was very often compelled to do much of her own housework. Ten years before she went into the White House she wrote her husband, from their farm home, a letter which shows the lines of her character, and which, in part, is as follows: "I am glad to tell that out of all the toil and disappointments of the summer just ended I have risen up to a victory: that silence of thought since you have been away has won for my spirit a triumph. I read something

like this the other day: 'There is no healthy thought, without labor, and thought makes the laborer happy.' Perhaps this is the way I have been able to climb up higher. It came to me one morning when I was making bread. I said to myself, 'Here I am, compelled by an inevitable necessity to make our bread this summer. Why not consider it a pleasant occupation and make it so by trying to see what perfect bread I can make?'

"It seemed like an inspiration, and the whole of life grew brighter. The very sunshine seemed flowing down through my spirit into the white loaves, and now I believe my table is furnished with better bread than ever before; and this truth, old as creation, seems just now to have become wholly mine—that I need not be the shrinking slave of toil, but its regal mistress, making whatever I do yield me its best fruits. You have been king of your work so long that maybe you laugh at me for having lived so long without my crown, but I am too glad to have found it at all to be entirely discontented, even by your merriment."

Mary Lincoln's Ambitions.

Mary Todd Lincoln, wife of the other American president to meet death by assassination, held from early youth the ambition to marry a man who should rule the nation. She picked out as her choice Abraham Lincoln, and this at a time when her selection seemed to have little of recommendation in it. She refused the offer of marriage of Stephen A. Douglas, and wedded the man she was sure was to go to Washington as the chief of America. She realized her ambition and went to the capital, holding her first reception



Dolly Madison.

March 9, 1861. This is how an old-timer recalls that occasion: "Mrs. Lincoln stood a few paces from her husband, assisted by her sisters, Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Baker, together with two of her nieces, and was attired in a rich pink moire-antique, pearl ornaments and flowers in her hair and hands. She is a pleasant looking, elegantly appearing lady of perhaps 40, somewhat inclined to stoutness, but, withal, fine looking and self-possessed."

It was the proudest day of Mrs. Lincoln's life. Laura C. Holloway, in speaking of the influence of Mrs. Lincoln of official America, is inclined to the belief that much of unfortunate effect was due to Mrs. Lincoln's lack of tact. "Plucky Dolly Madison. Of a happier tone was the White House experience of Dorothy Payne Madison, wife of the president of that name. Her family came from Virginia, and she, herself, despite the fact of her North Carolina birth, always took pride in referring to herself as a daughter of the Old Dominion. When her family removed to Philadelphia and joined the Quaker sect, Mistress Dorothy was brought up in that severe doctrine. She married, very young, John Todd, a Philadelphia lawyer, and was a widow at 22. Her second marriage—to the then Congressman Madison—took place less than a year after the death of Mr. Todd.

Mrs. Madison's disposition was of the sunniest. She proved an invaluable ally when her husband was elected president and moved to Washington. At that early day of our history, Washington was little less than a wilderness. Steamboats were just coming in, railroads were unknown. Five hundred mile trips on horseback were frequently taken, even by women. The times were rough. Mrs. Madison, however, with the softening influences which were hers from birth, made of the president's home

under all the circumstances must be pronounced unparalleled in the history of the western world. Even before the outcome of her contest with Russia had justified Japan's claim to a place in the first rank of nations the demonstration of military and naval efficiency made by her in the war with China had led the western powers to relieve her from the odious regime of exterritoriality by which China and Turkey are still humiliated. Not until August 1, 1905, however, had any Christian state entered into an agreement based on the assumption that Japan would have quite as much to give an ally as she could receive. The Anglo-Japanese treaty, signed on the date just named, was based on that assumption.

When the signatures have been attached to these negotiations we shall witness the amazing spectacle of a nation, which 40 years ago was centuries behind Europe and the United States in the arts of offensive and defensive warfare, linked by treaties not merely commercial, but political, to some of the most enlightened and mighty states on earth.

That Japan would beat China to the ground in the war of 1894-95 might have been taken for granted from the moment that the former power adopted the military and naval methods and the perfected weapons of the west. But that the island empire of the Pacific, which as lately as 1867 had no war fleet and whose warriors were still limited to weapons of offense to the sword and the bow, should have been able in the war of 1904-05 to defeat on land and sea the most colossal of European powers was undoubtedly an achievement which

a court of politeness, fashion and charm. She made for her husband friends by the hundred and was never happier than when presiding at the parlor cabinet. That was her history for awhile—the mainspring in the scheme of happiness. Then came the darker side of things, wars and rumors of wars, the bayonets of the British gleaming in the Washington sunshine—and American officials in danger of sudden death. Just how the volatile lady bore herself under these changed conditions is well shown in a letter she wrote to her sister at Mount Vernon: "Tuesday, August 23, 1814. 'Dear Sister—My husband left me yesterday morning to join Gen. Winder. He inquired anxiously whether I had courage or firmness to remain in the president's house until his return on the morrow or succeeding day and on my assurance that I had no fear but for him, and the success of our army, he left me, beseeching me to take care of myself, and of the cabinet papers, public and private. I have since received two dispatches from him, written with pencil; the last is alarming, because he desires that I should be ready at a moment's warning to enter my carriage and leave the city; that the enemy seemed stronger than had been reported, and that it might happen they would reach the city, with intention to destroy it. 'I am accordingly ready; I have pressed as many cabinet papers into trunks as to fill one carriage; our private property must be sacrificed, as it is impossible to secure wagons for its transportation. I am determined not to go myself until I see Mr. Madison safe and he can accompany me—as I hear of much hostility towards him. Disaffection stalks around us. My friends and acquaintances are all gone, even Col. C., with his hundred men, who were stationed as a guard in this inclosure. French John (a faithful domestic) with his usual activity and resolution, offers to spike the cannon at the gate and lay a train of powder which will blow up the British should they enter the house. To the last proposition I positively object, without being able, however, to make him understand why all advantages in war may not be taken.'"

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Rachel Jackson.

Jackson, his enemies made much capital of the situation. Just as she was preparing to leave for Washington to rule as mistress of the executive mansion, Mrs. Jackson overheard a gathering of women in a room adjoining hers in a hotel discussing her with a freedom and malice that resulted in her complete prostration and subsequent death.

Other Ladies of the White House. Other women who have graced the White House have, each, their places in history. Martha Washington, Lucy Webb Hayes, Julia Dent Grant, Martha Patterson, who aided her father, President Johnson; Mrs. Andrew Johnson, Harriet Lane, the beloved niece of President Buchanan, Abigail Fillmore. Mrs. James K. Polk, Letitia Christian Tyler, Angelica Van Buren, Mrs. Martin Van Buren, Louisa Catherine Adams and Martha Jefferson.

Their impression on their country's future has been scarcely less defined than was the mark made by the distinguished men whose names they bore. For the social influence is every bit as important as the political influence, and its victories, though unofficial, just as pronounced.

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ONE MAN'S EXPERIENCE IN WESTERN CANADA.

There Are Thousands of Opportunities in the Land of Opportunity.

To the Editor. Dear Sir: The following experience of an Illinois man who went to Western Canada six years ago is but one of the thousands of letters that could be reproduced showing how prosperity follows the settler on the fertile lands of Western Canada. This letter was written to the Chicago agent of the Government of the Dominion of Canada and is dated at Everts, Alberta, April 8th, 1907: "It is six years the 5th of this month since I and family landed in Red Deer, family sick and only \$75 in my pocket. Bought a \$12 lot, built a 12x14 shack and went to work as a carpenter. Next May sold for \$400 (had added 16x18 building to shack). Purchased two lots at \$70 each and built a 23x23 two story building and sold for \$950. Filed on a quarter section 33 miles N. W. of Red Deer and have spent three years on it and am well pleased. Quarter all fenced and cross fenced, wire and rail, 2 1/2 miles of fence. House 29x31 feet on stone foundation. Last year was my first attempt to raise grain, 1 1/2 acres of fall wheat, yield grand, but was frosted August 2nd, was cut August 16th and made good pig feed. Had 1 1/2 acres fall rye that I think could not be beat. A farmer from Dakota cut it for me; he said he never saw such heavy grain anywhere. Straw was 7 feet high. I had 4 acres of 2 rowed barley on fall breaking that did not do so well, yet it ripened and gave me all the feed I need for stock and seed for this spring. I did not have grain threshed, so can't give yield, but the wheat would have gone at least 25 bu. to the acre. Have a log stable 31x35 feet, broad roof and two smaller buildings for pigs and chickens. "I have lived in Harvey, Ills., and know something about it. I have been hungry there and though able and willing to work could get none to do. One Saturday evening found me without any supper or a cent to get it with. A friend, surmising my situation, gave me a dollar, which was thankfully accepted and later paid back. Wife and I are thankful we came here. We were living near Mt. Vernon, Ills., as perhaps you remember visiting me there and getting me headed for the Canadian Northwest, and a happy day it has proved for me. I have not grown rich, but I am prospering. I would not take \$3,000 for my quarter now. The past winter has been a hard one, but I worked outside the coldest day (52 below) all day and did not suffer. We are getting a school started now that is badly needed. "Our P. O. Everts, is about 15 miles; there is another office 6 miles, but it is not convenient to us. Wife and I would not exchange our home here for anything Illinois has to offer. "Yours truly, "(Sd.) E. EMBERLEY"

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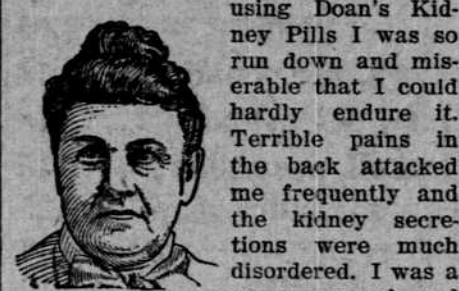
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TWO TERRIBLE YEARS.

The Untold Agonies of Neglected Kidney Troubles.



Mrs. James French, 65 Weir Street, Taunton, Mass., says: "When I began using Doan's Kidney Pills I was so run down and miserable that I could hardly endure it. Terrible pains in the back attacked me frequently and the kidney secretions were much disordered. I was a nervous wreck and there seemed no hope. Doan's Kidney Pills brought my first relief and six boxes have so thoroughly cured and regulated my kidneys that there has been no return of my old trouble." Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Hardening an ordinary drill in sulphuric acid, states the English Mechanic, makes an edge that will cut tempered steel or facilitate cutting hard rock. The acid should be poured into a flat-bottomed vessel to a depth of about one-eighth of an inch. The point of the drill is heated to a dull cherry red, and dipped in the acid to that depth. This makes the point extremely hard, while the remainder remains soft. If the point breaks, re-hardens, but with a little less acid in the vessel.

The extraordinary popularity of fine white goods this summer makes the choice of Starch a matter of great importance. Defiance Starch, being free from all injurious chemicals, is the only one which is safe to use on fine fabrics. Its great strength as a stiffener makes half the usual quantity of Starch necessary, with the result of perfect finish, equal to that when the goods were new.

The Same Kind. "Good heavens, Mary!" exclaimed the pampered husband, "where did you get these cigars? They are horrible!" "Why, my dear, I'm sure they're quite good," tearfully replied his wife. "I was very careful to call for the brand you always smoke. They're Colorado Maduro."—Lippincott's.

No Headache in the Morning. Krause's Headache Capsules for over-indulgence in food or drink. Druggists, 25c. Norman Lichty Mfg. Co., Des Moines, Ia.

A maid thinks she is necessary to a man's happiness, a widow thinks a man is necessary to her happiness, and a man—well, no matter what he thinks.

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New Austrian Railway.

Hitherto tourists from the United States who chose the southern trip to Europe left the steamer at Gibraltar or Naples, but many, chiefly those who had already been in Italy, now come to Trieste and continue from here their voyage by the new Austrian railway. There can hardly be a more beautiful country than the regions which are made accessible by this new Transalpine railroad. The new railway is owned by the state, and is 130 miles long. There are 49 tunnels, with a total length of ten miles. There are 50 bridges, one of which, across the river Isonzo, was the longest stone span in the world. There are, besides, as many as 678 smaller bridges and viaducts.—Consular Reports.

Sheer white goods, in fact, any fine wash goods when new, owe much of their attractiveness to the way they are laundered, this being done in a manner to enhance their textile beauty. Home laundering would be equally satisfactory if proper attention was given to starching, the first essential being good Starch, which has sufficient strength to stiffen, without thickening the goods. Try Defiance Starch and you will be pleasantly surprised at the improved appearance of your work.