



WHAT A WOMAN CAN DO.

I DO believe that my uncle is the most selfish man who ever lived!" exclaimed Bob Curzon. "What has he done now, dear?" inquired Cicely, who was not unaccustomed to hear condemnatory remarks respecting that gentleman.

"Oh, yes, I dare say, in novels." "Well, they do take place in real life." "Sometimes, p'raps, but—"

and I'm going to ask you if you will be my treasure?" "But, Major Mainwaring, I am only a nurse—a hospital nurse—what will your friends say?"

HOME OF PRESIDENTS

OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVES.

Interesting Description of the Famous Building—The East, Blue, Green and Red Rooms—Mecca of Politicians Who Seek Office.

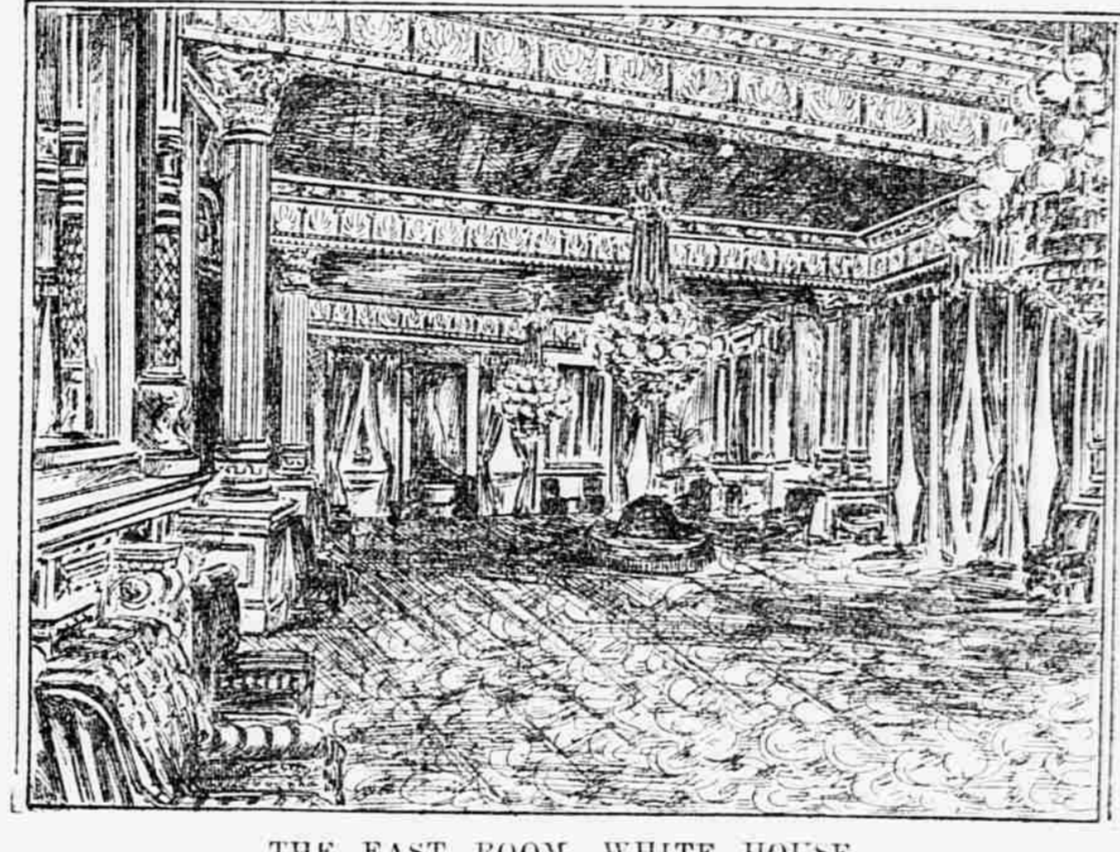
The White House.

Washington correspondence: There is no house in all the land to which the eyes of the American people turn with more interest than to the one which for almost a century has been the home of their Presidents—the White House at Washington.



PRESIDENT'S PRIVATE OFFICE.

these, and from them he took the topography of Versailles, and then introduced the broad transverse avenues, the circles, open squares and triangular reservations which resulted in producing this city of "magnificent distances."



THE EAST ROOM, WHITE HOUSE.

isfaction of walking through it with Mrs. Washington after its completion, a few weeks previous to his death. This building was burned by the British in 1812, but rebuilt in 1815.

woven through them are hundreds of tiny varied colored electric lights, the whole presenting a picture which might grace the Arabian Nights.

Leading from the East Room is the Green Room, so named from the tinting which prevails in its furnishings and decorations. On its walls hangs the picture of Mrs. Hayes, which was presented to the Government by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

The next in this suite of state parlors is one about which a peculiar charm attaches—the Blue Room. For it is here that the receiving party stand for the official receptions, and it is here that President and Mrs. Cleveland were married.

Opening off the Blue is the Red Room; this was Mrs. Cleveland's favorite of all of the downstairs rooms, and she gave it a more home-like air than any of the others possessed.

On the walls of the lower floor hang pictures of all of the Presidents, as well as many of their wives.

AN ANCIENT MEXICAN CITY.

A Curious Legend—Relics of Emperor Maximilian.

Queretaro was a town before the Spanish conquest, and was made a city in 1655. A legend of Queretaro is that an Otomite chief, Fernando de Tapia by name, undertook to convert the city to Christianity in a way that seems novel to us, but was common enough to his day.

Here the treaty of peace between the United States and Mexico was ratified in 1848, and here Maximilian made his last stand in 1867, was obliged to surrender and was shot. Everybody is interested in Maximilian mainly on account of poor Carlotta, who, by the way, has just obtained permission to revisit Mexico.

The State dining-room opens from the Red Room, and across the hall is the smaller one used by the family, both handsome apartments and furnished in fine dining-room paraphernalia.

Seeing the White House. One of the most unique types of humanity that have been seen at the White House in many a day strolled leisurely into the mansion shortly after luncheon the other day, says a correspondent of the New York Sun.

"Is this the President's house?" he asked of a doorkeeper. "Yes, colonel," was the reply, the doorkeeper noticing the military garb.

The upper corridor is used by the President's family as a sitting-room, and off from it is the library and the five sleeping rooms, which make up the number that the limited space of the historic old mansion can spare for that purpose.

The First Teacups. Even after tea was introduced into Europe and had come into general use, teacups were scarce, says the Jewelers' Circular.

Acetylene. It is stated that acetylene is being tried in some of the trams in Paris, and with promising success. The generator, containing the calcium carbide and water, weighs under thirty pounds, and is placed beneath the steps of the vehicle.

Growth of Postal Service. In the reign of Charles I. the British postal service carried 1,500,000 letters annually, in the reign of George II. 8,000,000, and in 1894 as many as 2,300,000,000.

First Sapphire Found in Idaho.

An Idaho miner brought a stone to the Miner's bureau which was pronounced a sapphire of the purest water and the largest ever seen.

Only Six Survivors.

Of the crowd of members of Parliament who, on Nov. 20, 1857, thronged the bar of the House of Lords to catch a glimpse of the girl Queen opening her first Parliament, only six are living at this day.

Frogs as Soldiers.

Don't imagine those frogs dressed up in red coats, with swords and pistols, but simply as an army going out to fight.

Lamp Chimneys.

A German firm makes a lamp in which there is a bulb at the upper instead of the lower part, and in which the upper rim is cut obliquely.