



WE AND OUR NEIGHBORS

Li Hung Chang asks the questions that occur to every one on meeting a stranger, but the Caucasian's obedience to "taboo" prevents him from asking them. For instance, the question of age, income and ability must be settled before an acquaintance can progress far. The Caucasian finds out how old how smart and how rich a man is by various methods, all of them more or less indirect. Li Hung Chang's time is short with each individual and he knows, or pretends to know, no usage against asking anything he wishes to know. He asked Queen Victoria how old she was, he asked Secretary Olney if he thought he was as able as his predecessor, he asked a railroad manager the amount of his salary, and when the official refused to tell him Chang repeated the question, and his victim wrote the amount on a piece of paper. Every one must have noticed the salary which a railroad official receives is a most delicate secret never to be hinted at in the official's presence.

Li Hung Chang in every case says the thing he should not, and leaves unsaid the things he should. State and railroad officials are tumbling over each other to get out of his way. President Cleveland, always a close follower punctilio, granted the viceroys an audience of fifteen minutes and arranged it so that immediately after the introductions were over the leave taking should begin. Chang was being driven back to his hotel in the time that he had planned to ask Cleveland if he thought he had made as good a president as Harrison, or whether he was a democrat or a republican, and if so, why so? Even Chang's oriental rusts were foiled by Cleveland adherence to convention. The country was waiting for Chang and Cleveland to meet, Cleveland knew it, and Chang never touched him.

John Currie says he and St. Gauden's were boys together. Referring to St. Gauden's statue of Lincoln in Lincoln park, Chicago, John Currie said: "I told him he had got it in a very poor attitude, why he looks as though he were standing before a police judge, so humble and downcast." St. Gauden replied: "Well, John, before you get your statue of Lincoln dug out of marble you will find how difficult it is to get it to stand right."

"I have just as much to bear of de-traction and unjust criticism as he had," Mr. Currie said, "and I shall pay no more attention to it than he did. I am going to make as fine a statue of Abraham Lincoln as there is in the United States, and when I get it finished the people will say so. I am not going to set up any bogus piece of work in spite of what those who criticize me say. Other sculptors have come here and tried to compete with me and I have run them out just as I will all those who have said my work was poor. As for models, I do not need any, I am going to cut this statue out of the marble itself. Artists do not need models."

The reporter quoted the well known words of Michael Angelo, who liked the clay model of his idea better than the finished form of it in the marble. "The clay is life, the plaster is death and the marble is the resurrection," Michael Angelo said, but John Currie thinks he must have been daft to spend so much time drawing the bones and the muscles of the body and then to waste still more time in making a clay model when all he needed was a chisel, a mallet and the marble to work on. "There is no

such thing as a master," Mr. Currie said, "all a man needs to accomplish anything he wants to is sense and ability."

After having met and talked with John Currie there is no longer any doubt but that he himself believes that he is a sculptor and that he can make a statue worthy of earthly immortality. He is in command of the situation and he can break up the marble in his possession or use it for his own monument or give it over to the committee, whatever that is, that Governor Holcomb appointed. Whatever he does no one has a right to anything more than a protest unless it be the stoneman in Tennessee, and he has shown unmistakable signs of dumbness.

Evidence that Miss Cather is at work on the "Home Monthly" appears in the September number of that magazine. "The Count of Crow's Nest" is the story of a boarding house that shelters a gentleman of France. He has a daughter who sings light opera and does not appreciate the reason why her father will not sell his letters from courtiers, kings and king's favorites to publishers who would, in exchange, turn his squalor into elegance. The daughter's cold blue eyes gleam with the selfishness that killed pere Goriot. "The Count of Crow's Nest" is a continued story and in this number is without action, but action or not the chapters are interesting with description and allusion.

The picture of Jeannette L. Gilder in the September number of The Bookman gives one a start. Her writings are very well known in the newspaper world. She has a column or two in the New York World and in the Chicago Tribune every week, and she conducts a department in The Critic called "The Lounger," but I did not know she looked like this. The Bookman says: "Miss Gilder makes the startling statement, for a woman, that she has never worn evening dress in her life and never expects to. Life she considers too short for fussing over dress. The other evening when she was invited to a literary "At Home"—"I will go," she said, "if you will let me look on from behind a screen." Miss Gilder certainly bears no evidence of the fussing woman, and manifests few outward signs of her strenuous and indefatigable career. Everyone in conversation finds her the most genial, good humored, and amusing of women. The portrait, which is printed in The Bookman, shows Miss Gilder dressed in a sack coat, a negligé shirt, and unstarched, turn over collar, a black silk belt, short hair and an immense chatelaine fastened to the belt on one side and a chain with pen knife and keys dangling from it, attached to the other side. Her arms are crooked with her finger tips placed lightly on her belt in the favorite position of a trapeze artist waiting to do his turn. The only evidence of coquetry about the square serious figure is the rings she wears upon her fingers.

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First Pub Aug 22
NOTICE.

The Vermont Marble company, and the Pomeroy Coal company.

Non-resident, defendant will take notice that on the 17th day of August, 1896, Mary Smith Cobb the plaintiff herein filed her petition in the district court of Lancaster county, Nebraska, against James F. Sheehy and Margaret Sheehy, the Vermont Marble company, and the Pomeroy Coal company, the object and prayer of which are to fore-close a certain mortgage executed by the said James F. Sheehy and Margaret Sheehy to plaintiff, then Mary A. Smith, now Mary Smith Cobb, to secure the payment of a promissory note, dated November 19, 1890, for the sum of thirteen hundred and twenty dollars (\$1,320) due and payable on the 1st day of December, 1895.

That there is now due on the said note and mortgage the sum of \$1,071.40, for which sum, with ten per cent interest from the 17th day of August, 1896, the plaintiff prays for a decree that the defendants be required to pay the same or for said premises to be sold to satisfy the amount now due.

You are required to answer said petition on or before the 28th day of September, 1896.

MARY SMITH COBB,
By Lamb & Adams, Her Attorneys.
Sept 12

NOTICE.

[First publication August 29]

William F. Onley, Levi Igou and E. J. Dremling, first name unknown, defendants, will take notice that on the 18th day of April, 1896, Stull Bros. the plaintiff herein, filed their petition in the district court of Lancaster county, Nebraska, against said defendants, the object and prayer of which are to fore-close a certain mortgage executed by William F. Onley (single), to George Thompson, and by him duly sold and assigned to plaintiff, upon lot five (5), in block eighteen (18), Mills' Second addition to University Place, in Lancaster county, Nebraska, to secure the payment of one certain promissory note said note dated September 1, 1892, for the sum of \$500, due and payable one year from date thereof. Said note was not paid when the same became due, nor any part thereof, nor has said note or any part thereof been collected and paid; there is now due on said note and mortgage the sum of \$600, for which sum, with interest from September 1, 1894, at 10 per cent per annum, plaintiffs pray for a decree that defendants be required to pay the same, or that said premises may be sold to satisfy the amount found due.

You are required to answer said petition on or before Monday, the 5th day of October, 1896.

C. C. FLANSBURG,
Attorney for Plaintiff.
Dated August 29, 1896.

Sept 19

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