The Barrington Review

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W. T. LAMEY, Editor and Publisher.

Friday, March 3, 1905

EDITORIAL COMMENT

The death of General Lew Wallace recalls the circumstances of his first visit to the establishment of Harper & Bros. in New York with the manuscript of "Ben-Hur" under his arm. He was personally unknown to the Harpers at that time, and after introducing himself he explained to Mr. J. Henry Harper that he had written a book which dealt with the life of Christ. Mr. Harper asked him if Christ actually appeared in the story, and General Wallace replied that he did. Mr. Harper then remarked that this subject was a delicate one to treat in a novel, and General Wallace answered that if there were anything in the story which could offend a fellow Christian he would rather cut off his right hand than publish it.

He then explained to Mr. Harper that the book had resulted from a spirited controversy he had held with Robert G. Ingersoll on the subject of religion, in which Ingersoll had defeated him in argument. General Wallace went away from the discussion with a troubled mind. For some time he contemplated writing a theological work which would strengthen religious faith at the point of Ingersoll's brilliant attack. But he decided that theologians could do that work much better than he, and besides his desire was to reach and help the masses. He lay awake by night pondering the question which had taken possession of his mind and eventually decided to write a religious novel in which he could embody his understanding of religious truth. "Ben-Hur" was the result. When General Wallace had told these interesting facts to Mr. Harper he left the manuscript, expressing the hope that his own estimate of the work would be indorsed by the house.

The manuscript was read in the usual way by the readers of the firm and was promptly accepted. General Wallace told Mr. Harper later on that he had written the book in all sorts of out of the way places—on boats, railroads, in carriages, wherever he had an opportunity—afterward correcting and revising with the utmost patience and care. It seems astonishing that he had never been to the Holy Land when he wrote "Ben-Hur," but worked out the minute topography of the country as it is presented in the story entirely from maps and reading. He once said to Mr. Harper that when eventually he did visit Palestine he was himself surprised at the absolute accuracy of his descriptions, which tallied exactly with the facts, and he was fond of telling how he found the very stone which he had imagined as a resting place for Ben-Hur at a certain point of the story. The book was published on Nov. 12, 1880, and for the first year the sales hung fire. It showed no signs of general popularity. Then it began to grow year by year, and it has now sold well on to a million copies.

Tea Rose the Spring Flower.

Already it is easy to tell the tea rose will be the favorite adornment of spring hats, says the New York Press. Perhaps the most popular of all the tea roses used by the milliners will be the exquisite Marechal Neil, judging from advance orders. Clusters of the Marechals are to wave on the crown of Mrs. Eddie De Lancey's spring headgear, their stems bound with ribbon of sable velvet. The tea rose lends itself to such a wide variety of settings that it will be easy for the arbiters of fashion to design becoming frameworks for all sorts of faces. Heliotrope, bronze, blue from pale to dark, rose color in all its shades, green and, naturally, the various straw hues are acceptable as backgrounds. Wise women will draw the line at purple and red, of course, and she who knows how to make herself really fetching will make her milliner intwine a Spanish lace scarf with the artistic cranial bouquet.

Maxim Gorky's Rebuke.

Anecdotes of Maxim Gorky, the Russian author, are on the wing, says the London Chronicle. Here is one they tell in Paris: He went to the theater at Moscow one evening to see a play by a popular writer. Instead of paying attention to the stage the entire audience rose and greeted Gorky with prodigious acclamation. Then he delivered this address: "What on earth are you staring at me for? I am not a dancing girl nor the 'Venus of Milo' nor a drunkard just picked out of the river! I write stories. They have the luck to please you, and I am glad of it, but that is no reason why you should keep on staring. We have come here to see a charming play. Be good enough to attend to that and leave me alone." More delighted than ever, the audience shouted with joy. Perhaps they thought they would get another speech, but Gorky jumped out of his seat and left the theater in disgust.

Characteristic Roosevelt Incident.

When the Washington's birthday exercises at the Academy of Music in Philadelphia had closed the other day and President Roosevelt was leaving the stage at the side of Provost Harrison of Pennsylvania university, followed by the other distinguished guests with stately mien and solemn air, each profoundly impressed with the dignity of the occasion, the president suddenly espied Professor Samuel McClure Lindsay of the university modestly ensconced behind one of the wings, says the Philadelphia Public Ledger. Breaking away from the astonished provost, the president rushed up to the professor, with the exclamation: "Hello, old boy. By Jove, I'm glad to see you!" and gave him a hand grasp which made him wince with pain. He then returned to the side of the provost, and the procession proceeded.

COACH'S PRINCELY SALARY.

Harvard Will Give Bill Reid $3,500 a Year For Football.

Bill Reid, Harvard's famous old athlete, will coach the crimson football team next fall, says a Cambridge (Mass.) special dispatch to the New York Times. He will receive a salary of $3,500, part of which will be paid by the athletic committee and the rest by wealthy graduates who are interested in Harvard's athletics.

The proposition to engage Reid, according to a statement given out by Professor Coolidge, chairman of the athletic committee, was made at a meeting of the committee on Feb. 17, and the day previous to that the committee was unwilling to pay a football coach a larger salary than that of a full fledged professor.

Reid will come to Cambridge probably within a month. Although his contract provides for only one year of service, it is so framed that he can extend it for three years, thus making his policy permanent.

Reid played fullback on the 1898 team, which defeated Yale at New Haven, as well as on the teams of 1899 and 1900. He was captain of the baseball team in 1900 and 1901 and was head coach of the university team in the fall of 1901, when Harvard last defeated Yale. He is at present a submaster in his father's school, the Belmont Preparatory school, at Belmont, Cal.

AIDS TO GOOD LOOKS.

Brains and Graceful Hands Add to Woman's Attractiveness.

Amelie of Portugal, the handsomest queen in Europe, declares no woman can be beautiful who is not also intellectual. Every woman not a born idiot has brains enough to cultivate and develop if she will look after them. Queen Amelie herself has been so impressed with the necessity of intellectuality for a woman who would be attractive that she has studied law, medicine and art. She takes a live interest in all that pertains to the welfare of her subjects, and they love her enthusiastically.

Amelie of Portugal is a skilled athlete. She swims, rides horseback, cycles and takes long walks. She bids women who would make themselves comely to live outdoors as much as possible. She says: "Breathe outdoor air. Live in it. Revel in it." To the end that pure air may circulate freely through houses, Queen Amelie bids women throw away their portieres and bric-a-brac. "Don't have useless trifles around," she says, which is advice most excellent. Nothing is more conducive to first class lung trouble than dust catching bric-a-brac and the air hincering, stuffy, stifling draperies and curtains in some women's houses. It makes one feel crawly and sneezy to look at them.

"Away with such trash!" says lovely Queen Amelie.

To Limber the Hands.

Women who do much housework often find their hands and fingers becoming stiff and therefore awkward. Perfectly limber wrists and fingers can never look awkward, and their owner will never be at a loss what to do with her hands.

Certain simple exercises, in the power of the busiest woman to perform, will prevent the stiffening process and even stop it after it has set in. The first is that movement of the arms which sets free the shoulder muscles. Stand erect, with the muscles of your hands, arms and shoulders as limber as possible. Then raise your arms, palms upward, to a level with your shoulders and stretch them as far as you can outward on each side of you. Think of yourself as trying to tear your arms and shoulders away from your backbone, and you will get the idea. Do this rapidly a dozen times at least once a day.

Deburtem exercises of the kind called "devitalizing" will free the hands, wrists and arms below the elbow. For these, stand erect as before. Hold your hands up in front of you like the fore legs of a kangaroo. Now, by an effort of your will pull all sensation and consciousness out of fingers, hands

"DEVITALIZING."

and fore arms, and let them be as lifeless and limber as if you did not possess them. Then, using only the muscles from the elbow downward, shake your hands and fingers violently, as though you were trying to shake your fingers loose, and let them fly off into the air. This is done with a wrist motion—forward, back and from side to side, revolving the fore arm for the purpose.

Such shaking, practiced once a day for a few minutes and persisted in, will make lithe and nimble and graceful any woman's fingers and wrists. Another good finger exercise is to stretch the arms out right and left from the shoulders as far as possible, then spread the fingers as far apart as you can at the knuckles, in and out, in and out, till they fairly ache. This promotes circulation. A lady who does all her housework and attends to a small dairy besides keeps her fingers limber with this simple exercise once or twice a day.

Care of the Hands.

No matter how rough the work a woman does, it is possible to keep her hands nice looking. Wherever she can she should wear gloves while doing the roughest and heaviest work.

One of the main points in taking care of the hands is to keep them clean. When a manicure operates on the nails the first thing she does is to soak the fingers in warm soapy water. This is an excellent plan unless the hands are already shriveled and rough from having been working in water. But in every case a brisk rub with a hand scrubbing brush is one of the best means of making clean, pretty hands. Just a small scrubbing brush that usually costs 5 cents is as good a finger and nail brush as is made, and it can be kept handy in the kitchen.

After the nails are scrubbed and the hands are thoroughly clean and dry a lotion of some kind should be rubbed into them. For this there is nothing better than the old standard one of strained lemon juice and pure glycerin mixed in equal parts. Used at night, it will keep the hands smooth and white.

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Notice of Final Settlement.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, COUNTY OF LAKE, } ss. In the County Court Lake County, In Probate.

In the matter of the final settlement of the Estate of Guy M. Fisher, Deceased

To Clarence J. Fisher and to the unknown heirs of Clarence J. Fisher Sr., heirs at law of said decedent:

Take notice, that on the 25th day of April, A. D., 1905, at 10 o'clock a. m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard the undersigned will present to the Probate Court at the Court House, in the city of Waukegan, in said County his final account as administrator of said estate, and ask that the same be approved; that the said estate be declared settled and the undersigned discharged from his said office at which time and place you are notified to be present if you so desire.

MILES T. LAMEY,
Administrator of the Estate of Guy M. Fisher, Deceased.

Barrington, Illinois, February 17, A. D. 1905.

GEN. HERKIMER'S HOME.

Move of Herkimer County Historical Society to Preserve It.

A movement has been started in Little Falls, N. Y., for the purchase of the old General Nicholas Herkimer manor, with the object of its preservation as a historical museum, says the Syracuse Post-Standard. Since the narrow escape of the old home from destruction by fire the Herkimer County Historical society and the Daughters of the American Revolution have been spurred to renewed activity in their efforts to the end that the historic house in which General Herkimer lived and died may be saved as a monument to the memory of the famous old Revolutionary hero.

At the present time it is used as the dwelling of a market gardener and is fast going to decay. The house and land adjoining are now owned by Mrs. Gertrude Garlock of Little Falls, who is a direct descendant of the Herkimers.

The house is a three story brick and of the old colonial architecture, situated about two miles east of Little Falls on the berm bank of the Erie canal and about 300 feet from the graveyard, upon which was recently erected a 100 foot granite obelisk. Under the old barn the powder magazine is still intact, the underground passageway from the house to the magazine having fallen in most of the way. The old portholes through which the patriots trained their guns are still visible.

It is the aim of the movement to repair the house, keeping as far as possible the original design and making it a rendezvous for students of American history who are interested in the historical points along the Mohawk valley.

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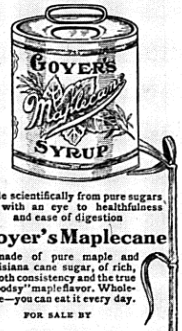

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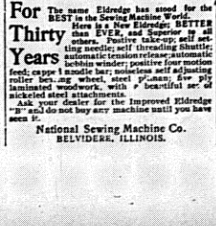

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