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# MIRAMICHI ADVANCE

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A BLACK-BALLED POEM.

We had to bar out the reading of that old poem, Rock Me to Sleep, Mother; Rock Me to Sheep.

Too hackneyed?

No; but the committee said that rocking infants was now considered barbarously unhealthy.

THERE ARE OTHERS.

Weary Watkins—I see by the papers that the Prince of Wales is looked after by the police all the time.

Hungry Higgins—Yes, an' he never works, neither. I guess we ain't the only ones.

HIS CONVERSATION.

Miss Gabby. Freddy Fethered reminds me of a barometer.

Miss Wunder. Why?

Miss Gabby. Oh, he can't talk of anything except the weather.

*EDITORIAL NOTES.*

No thinking person who has passed middle life will have failed to note the rise in the standard of living during the last thirty years, and the eagerness of men to still further increase that standard. Among all classes there is a new realization of the delight of comfort, and a growing demand for the material things which contribute to it. They are no longer content with the measure of material well-being which sufficed their fathers, still less to be crowded or ill-fed or deprived of the education which enables them to compete successfully with their fellows. Their food, clothing, shelter, and intellectual training must all be better than that of their forebears. Their wants have, in fact, nearly doubled, and to supply them they are working with an energy which threatens to impair the general health, and prevents happiness by leaving no room for leisure. Many of these wants are, of course, legitimate enough, but their satisfaction absorbs all time, and forbids the meditation and reflection by which alone men may be said to grow. And the probability is that the demand for material comforts will tend to increase rather than diminish.

Moreover, along with this higher standard of living has come a tremendous increase in the savings of the country, and a heavy fall in the rate of interest. No doubt to many classes of workers this change will be beneficial, for with the spread of education and thus the multiplication of the number of men able to direct, cheap money will open the way for many new and profitable undertakings. Mines will be worked more thoroughly, canals built, great areas of land be brought under cultivation, new cereals and fibres introduced and old ones improved, and many enterprises involving only slight but certain returns carried on. But while the change will thus not be injurious to the public as a whole, it will be, and is even now, disastrous to the people who live on wages and salaries. For these people must save enough before forced retirement or old age comes on to secure a living income if they are to be comfortable and retain their independence. And they include the great majority of the professional class and of salaried men.

Take, for example, the minister, doctor, or lawyer, whose income is from $1,500 to $4,000 a year. With the rise in the standard of living and the social and professional demands made upon him, it is difficult to save at all, any increase of income being more than met by the increase of obligation to spend. With the better education, competition steadily increases. He cannot raise his prices, cannot put eighteen hours of work into twelve, and cannot invest his small savings in anything that is at once secure and will yield an income that will contribute materially to his support. Men who have money, or who accumulate it rapidly, want the best securities, the result being a competition which brings the interest down to less than half what could once have been counted on. The average man, cannot, then, hope to save enough even by the labor of a life to give him an income equal to that of his working years, to insure the former plane of comfort in old age, or to give his children a secure start in life. It is useless to point out the decline in the price of food, for he can reply that the rise in many essentials, in rents, cost of education, etc., more than balances it, while instead of 6 or 8 per cent. on his small savings, he now gets 3 or 4 per cent

What is the remedy for this state of things, and what its effect upon thrift will be, it is very difficult to say. Pretty evidently the professional and salaried classes see no remedy, for they are working on a dozen years later in life than they used to do, and so postponing by that much the time when the young attain to self-support. No doubt if the present eagerness for comforts could in some way be diminished, and a general compromise be reached under which the present standard of living could be reduced and men still retain their social position, a partial solution of the difficulty might be found. For the enormous increase of capital and the subsequent low rate of interest would still prevent it from being a complete solution. But no such compromise can be made, nothing being more certain than that the desire for material well-being will continue to increase. Indeed, so far as can now be seen, the result can only be a fiercer competition, harder work, less of happiness in life, and, possibly, an increase of the gambling spirit, the readiness to risk all in speculative ventures promising quick returns. After a time, it may be assumed, some remedy will be found, because a craze for material good like that which now exists, blocks progress, which is not God's will, and because the cultivated class in the end moulds public opinion.

DISCOURAGING WOMEN.

Some of the most successful men in politics, he said thoughtfully, have been those who have had little to say.

Naturally she was indignant.

There you go! she exclaimed, Always doing your best to discourage women.

INEXPENSIVE POLISH.

One-third vinegar and two-thirds linseed oil make an excellent mixture to brighten furniture when rubbing it in spring cleaning.

A DEFINITION.

Freddy. Pop, when do they call a woman an old hen?

The Paternal. When she becomes hopelessly set in her ways, my son.

# Patti and Her Youth

The art of how to be beautiful as set forth in the life of one of the most famous possessors of an apparently perennial charm—Adelina Patti — is a composite of mental and physical achievement which every woman with wealth, leisure and inclination may emulate.

To Patti beauty of body means beauty of mind. Thought must have something to feed on. She therefore surrounds herself with an entourage of loveliness. Cares are the forerunners of wrinkes, indigestion and a bad complexion. Cares therefore to the tiniest crease in a rose leaf are smoothed away from the singer's experience. The misery of others is a source of suffering, hence Patti's purse is always open, her smile a ray of sunshine in the darkest hour, and the peasants about her Welsh castle at Craig-y-nos bless her name. Scarcely a home of the poorest but boasts its little Adelina. The Queen of Song is a veritable queen of her people. She inhales their adulation with every breath. It braces her spirits like a health-giving tonic.

Patti, like all the world loves a lover. Love is with her a religion. When, therefore, a loverless maiden, sighing for the swain she could not have save with a dot of £100, wrote to the diva praying her for love's sake to aid her, what rite could be more sacred than Patti's check promptly despatched with an accompanying felicitation? Hers is the irresponsible existence of an exuberant child. She dispenses joys like gifts and their incense feeds the source of her bubbling youthfulness.

Her voice is to the artist only a factor in her power of giving happiness. The theatre at her castle has a gallery open to her peasants. Their appearance makes her as radiant as the praise of prince. An adverse criticism has equal power to wound and Caro, her maid, weeds out Madame's mail and as far as possible extracts the thorns before their owner sees her letters. It is the same in all things—every detail of life is idealized.

At the castle her surroundings are a dream of beauty. She dines in the conservatory — a vista of palms and ferns to delight her eyes, fresh flowers invariably on her table. There are always guests, sometimes few, sometimes many — Patti revels in companionship—but the ceremony is always the same. No matter how fierce the storm without, Madame descends in full evening dress, ablaze with jewels, to take her place among the flowers. The electric lights spring up — the scene is like fairyland. She will have perpetual summer about her. At any suggestion of change in her apparel her answer is ever the same: "One must be always beautiful for one's husband."

Her dressing-room is gorgeous. In size it is immense. Half way up the walls are of pure white onyx, above of blue tufted satin. An exquisitely decorated ceiling and a great onyx bath with silver fittings complete it. The appointments of her dressing table are in solid gold with her monogram in diamonds.

Everywhere through the house are the souvenirs of the friends and incidents which have dotted her career. She surrounds herself at every turn with reminders of the love and admiration that she has excited. There is a cabinet full of her childhood's treasures, the miniatures of her parents and herself, her first jewels, "to keep my mind young," Patti explains. On a side table a golden egg set with six huge emeralds has attracted many a comment. "It is too valuable to be left about," is the general verdict. But Patti laughs it to scorn.

"I have emeralds locked in a safety deposit vault that I never see," she exclaims. "This is the first gift the Russian public ever gave me. My servants are honest and my guests are honest. I want to keep it where it can make me happy."

Household cares she has none. These fall to Caro, who conducts all things with clockwork regularity.

Patti's nature is intense, tempestuous—a cloud over the sunshine, past and gone in a moment. But her life is conducted absolutely by rule. She never indulges in excesses of any kind. Her pleasures are temperate, her fatigue healthful. Exercise, fresh air and good food are her three staples. Exercise she holds is a necessity to keep the blood coursing quickly through the veins. She walks every day at 11. If it happens to be raining Patti is happy. A downpour is her balm for the complexion. In mackintosh and rubber boots she tramps along, lifting her face to the sky.

"I am afraid of draughts, but never of rain," she says gayly.

Her rising hour is 8.30, her breakfast a light one of thin bread and butter and fruit. While her hair is brushed Patti looks over her letters. Her hair is her especial pride and is treated with infinite care. On one occasion in Russia, when the ladies of the court hinted that the diva's luxuriant tresses were false Patti in a flash pulled out the combs and let her flowing curls loose upon her shoulders. The answer was conclusive.

After the walk comes luncheon at 1. It is at this meal that the maid empties into her goblet of water a liqueur glass of whiskey. Patti contends that this kills all germs. She eschews tea, coffee and chocolate and at dinner drinks only the extra dry champagne specially manufactured for her. She never takes more than a half pint at most. She drives at 2 p.m. Her rest hour comes just before dinner. Her evening is devoted to private theaticals or pleasure with her guests. She delights to dance to the music of her wonderful orchestrion; games she enjoys like a child, but cards are barred from her home. They suggest to her the feverish life she would avoid.

The singer's bath is of warm water—she avoids all shocks, physical or mental with the care of a sensitive plant. Her recipe for the skin is simply to keep the pores perfectly clean. She uses a castile soap and a little cold cream prepared by her maid, so that she feels assured of its pure ingredients. No liquid "make up" is put on her face. On the stage, of course, she is forced occasionally to resort to adventitious aids, but on the street or in private life she resorts to nothing save a light powder. Her neck and arms are like those of a baby. No lines suggest the coming of age. Her muscles are under perfect control, and hence no "stringy" appearance disfigures her perfect throat.

Patti does not believe in massage. She submitted to it once, but was always fearful it might injure her throat and never repeated the operation. Her absolute poise is the secret of her rounded figure. This has been the study of her lifetime. Though corseted she is not laced, freedom for breathing being one of her requirements. Every one of her garments must fit, but there must be no pressure anywhere.

In food the singer avoids sweets. She said once warningly to a devotee of chocolate cake: "It will make you old and wrinkled before your time."

She retires promptly at midnight and her guests do likewise.

Rich and beloved, shielded from every care and sorrow, carrying her wealth of "happiness" into the veriest tittle of her existence, Patti preserves her beauty by a method which defies time. In the words of a London critic on her appearance at the performance for the Marchioness of Lansdowne's war relief fund, she bridges a quarter of a century.

# CITIES COMMIT SUICIDE

CRIMINAL FOOLISHNESS OF THEIR INHABITANTS THE CAUSE.

**Several Instances Recorded in the United States, While Other Countries Furnish Examples—Will Pretoria Be Added to the List?**

An impression has obtained originating perhaps in the solemn utterances of Prof. Leyde, a Boer emissary that rather than the British should have the satisfaction of taking Pretoria that beautiful city would be reduced to ashes by its inhabitants, as Moscow was destroyed by the Russians to prevent its falling into the all-conquering hands of Napoleon Bonaparte. The British affect to scout at the idea of Pretoria's destruction by its own people, and are confident that in the near future Lord Roberts will hoist the Union Jack above its ramparts much in the same condition in which the city is to-day.

SAN DIEGO'S SUICIDE.

But though Pretoria is unlikely to die by its own hand, there are dead and dying cities all the world over which owe their ends entirely to the criminal foolishness of their own inhabitants. You could hardly find a more striking instance in point than San Diego, once a rising town in Southern California. Its inhabitants, in 1883, finding their population had jumped 2,000 in a year, determined that San Diego was going to be the greatest, most important city on the Pacific. They sank every penny they could raise in buying land and building houses. Prices were artificially rushed up, till building lots on the principal streets originally worth $100 fetched $5,000 apiece. Then the bubble burst, and the town was ruined. To-day hundreds of half-finished residences stand as bitter warnings of this madness to the small remainder of San Diego's inhabitants.

NEVADA'S RUINED CITY.

Evans City, in Nevada, is now represented by two streets of ruins inhabited by rattlesnakes and coyotes. Twenty years ago it was a flourishing town with a population of 3,000, or more. Fine buildings were put up; but the people were so eager to make money they neglected to provide any waterworks or system or irrigation. A drought set in, and lasted six months. Water by that time was being hauled 20 miles, and being sold for three shillings a bucket. Then came—as was only natural—fever, and a general exodus. The town was dead in a year.

TWO OTHER AMERICAN TOWNS.

Similar disregard for proper authority killed a town called Greenville, on the Mississippi River. The great Mississippi is only kept in its bed by gigantic embankments called levees. Nowadays they are kept up by the state. But at one time each town along the banks had a section to look after. The people of Greenville proved callously careless. They allowed the strong current to eat deep into the banks without replacing the soil. The result was that one April night the river came down in flood, tore a yawning gap in the worn levee, and swept Greenville and most of its people from the face of the earth. Johnstown, the Pennsylvania town, wiped out by the bursting of the Conemaugh Dam on May 31, 1889, owed this shocking disaster and the loss of 6,000 lives directly to the incredible carelessness of its authorities, who were warned the dam was insecure, but refused to move in the matter.

RUIN OF A SIBERIAN MARKET TOWN.

Sometimes it is sheer pigheadedness which proves the ruin of a city. There is a Siberian market town in the district of Smeinsk which rejoices in the extraordinary name of Schemonajewskoje. At present the grass grows in its streets, and the weekly market is a thing of the past. All its grown-up male inhabitants are in jail. Their offense is that they openly defied the authorities in refusing to repair the highway on which the town is built. Warning after warning proved of no avail, and at last the threats have become reality. The town has, of course, received its death blow.

A CASH IN HOLLAND.

If you go to Holland for a holiday this summer it is probable you will visit the dead cities of Zuyder Zee, whose grassgrown and desolate streets are a melancholy lesson to careless towns. Monnickendam was the most important of these, and when The Hague was a mere village was one of the 27 great towns of the Dutch republic. Ships of large tonnage filled its port, and gold flowed into its coffers. The town grew lazy. The outer sea was shallowing from year to year, but they took no notice. Amsterdam, threatened with a similar fate, bestirred herself, and cut the North Sea Canal, which traverses the entire length of North Holland, insuring her commercial prosperity. Monnickendam let things slide. Now her harbor is a mud bank, and the place is but a tiny village instead of a great and wealthy port.

SOME NATURAL GIFTS.

To his accomplishments as a soldier Col. Baden-Powell adds a remarkable number of natural gifts. He is a good artist, chiefly in black and white, and has the rare ability of drawing with either hand. He is an excellent amateur actor, an adept stage manager, a keen sportsman, a yachtsman when he has time, and withal an author of several books, which reflect in their vigorous language, the healthy pulsating activity of his mind.

With his bold, adventurous spirit, his strong self-reliance, his alertness and careful watching of the enemy, his cheeriness and never-say-die confidence in victory, his absolute fearlessness and devotion, to his men, his versatility in the arts of war, Colonel Baden-Powell is an example not more to younger officers than to older ones.

The Opposition in the North-west Legislature consists of Messrs. McDonald, Bennett, Hawkes, McKay, McLeod, McDiarmid, Villeneuve and Shera.

Martin Nye came from Dunnville to Owen Sound to get a position. After some weeks he secured one, but he had hardly assumed his duties when he was taken ill and died. His family was left in destitute circumstances.

George Anderson, Indian agent, has given notice that all persons other than Indians, who, without the authority of the superintendent general, reside on the Tyendinaga reserve, are liable to a fine of ten dollars a day or imprisonment, and that all persons so residing after July 1st will be prosecuted accordingly.

A baby carriage containing the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Butler, Huntsville, was left standing in front of a store, when the wind suddenly blew it over the edge of the platform. The fall was about ten feet, and as soon as the carriage struck the stones below, the babe was thrown out, but fortunately its pillows accompanied it, and saved its life. It alighted on a heap of large stones a few feet from the river.


# A Strange Malady Among Soldiers!

**Said to be Locomotor Ataxia, a Nervous Disease, Which is Also Prevalent in This Country—Peculiar Symptoms.**

Capt. J. P. Finlay, of the 9th United States Infantry, has returned from Manila, suffering with what he says is "a terrible malady which is prevalent among the officers and men. It develops into neuritis or nerve paralysis, and many of its victims are crippled for life."

Dr. Wilson, of Buffalo, N.Y., says that this "mysterious disease" is locomotor ataxia, and is just as prevalent in North America as in the Philippines. It is a degeneration of the nerve cells of the spinal cord, which affects the nerve controlling motion.

There are many examples of the terrible results of this disease to be seen on the streets of Toronto and other Canadian cities. The characteristic symptoms of this nerve-exhausting disease is inability to walk properly or to control the hands and arms. The feet are raised high up and put down heel and sole together in a sort of flapping motion. The victim is in danger of falling when going up or down stairs or around corners. He walks with his eyes on his feet, experiencing shooting pains in the legs and sense of pressure about the waist.

In the later stages locomotor ataxia as this disease is called, is incurable. If taken in time it is found to yield to the restorative influence of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, which completely rebuilds the wasted nerve cells of the spinal cord and revitalizes the nerves.

The time to act is when nervousness first makes itself apparent. When you find yourself tapping with the fingers, when the nerves of the body twitch after retiring at night, when you lie awake, too nervous to sleep, when you have nervous headache and nervous dyspepsia.

These symptoms of exhausted nerve force are the beginning of a wasting process which must end in locomotor ataxia, paralysis, nervous prostration, or epilepsy unless the system is restored. For the benefit of all readers of this article we cannot do better than to recommend the persistent use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, which in a few months will completely rebuild the exhausted nervous system and cure the most serious diseases of the nerves.

This treatment is recommended above all others because it is a modern scientific preparation compounded from a favourite prescription of Dr. A. W. Chase, who has tested it in thousands of cases of locomotor ataxia, paralysis and nervous prostration with which he comes in contact in his immense practice. It is considered by medical men to be the greatest restorative which nature provides for pale, weak, nervous men, women and children.

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