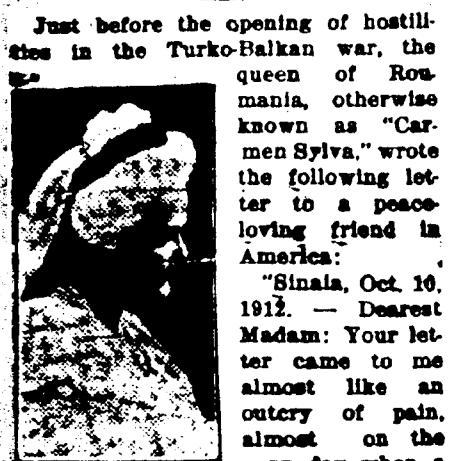


"CARMEN SYLVA" EVER AN ANGEL OF PEACE



Just before the opening of hostilities in the Turko-Balkan war, the queen of Roumania, otherwise known as "Carmen Sylva," wrote the following letter to a peace-loving friend in America:

"Sinaia, Oct. 10, 1912. — Dearest Madam: Your letter came to me almost like an outcry of pain, almost on the very day when a fresh war is breaking out before our very doors! Only the Danube rolls its big, swollen floods between us and the dire disaster.

"The king has done what was in his power to make peace between all those excited peoples, these young nations who want to feel and to manifest their strength in the only manner known upon our dark earth, where strife is the word!

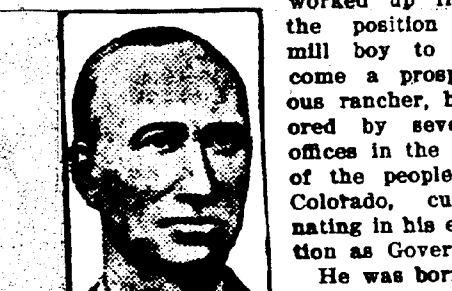
"I can't write more, as I know not what the small hours of the rising day announce. All is dark like the torrents of rain that hid the sky since so many months. May your work prosper in the enlightened countries you are visiting—this is my greatest wish, dear madam. Every yours, ELIZABETH (CARMEN SYLVA)."

The queen, in many respects one of the most interesting characters in Europe, last year startled the world by daring to do something never before done. Her autobiography, considered one of the most wonderful ever to come from the pen of royalty, ignored titled persons, court intrigues, statesmen and heroes of wars, to relate the annals of a queen's private life.

Few men or women of title ever had dared to pull back the royal purple and let the world for one brief moment look behind into the innermost secrets of the life of royalty. Probably none ever stepped so far as did her highness, the queen of Roumania. Her revelations amazed those who considered the life of rank as one of luxury, ease and comfort, and forgot that kings and queens often exist in embittering conditions. The Spartan discipline endured by those who one day may be a king or a queen she showed in her memoirs in a manner which was outspoken and fearless.

ONCE A LUMBERJACK; NOW STATE GOVERNOR

Ellas M. Ammons, governor-elect of Colorado, is a self-made man. He worked up from the position of mill boy to become a prosperous rancher, honored by several offices in the gift of the people of Colorado, culminating in his election as Governor.



He was born in North Carolina in 1860, his father being a school teacher and Baptist minister. His parents were poor, and in 1871 they felt the lure of the west and settled in Denver.

The boy's first job was in a woolen mill. Later he worked as a lumberman in the woods, earning money to send himself through high school, from which he graduated when nineteen years old.

He then became connected with the circulation department of a newspaper, later joining the editorial staff and becoming associate editor before his sight failed. He then invested in a ranch.

As a Republican he was elected clerk of the district court and soon afterward to the legislature. He was speaker in his second term there. He followed Senator Teller out of the Republican party and soon became a power in the Democratic ranks.

Mr. Ammons has a wife, a daughter and two sons.

They Carry Disease Germs. Domestic animals are declared to be disease conveyers by the weekly bulletin of the Chicago department of health, issued recently.

Fondling the meek, old family cat may cause rashes, intestinal and infantile paralysis, or diphtheria, the bulletin says, and the faithful watchdog may bring dire communicable diseases. The parrot is found to be a conveyor of ptilosis, a parrot disease.

Although not many families to whom the bulletin is mailed are believed to be in danger from familiarity with the cow, dog, goat or squirrel, the bulletin points to parasitical dangers lurking in these animals.

Corkcreek Way. Mrs. Nettie Kibby, conductor of the National Division of Sons of Temperance, in a temperance address in Worcester, pointed out the absurd folly of attempting to drive away sorrow by getting drunk.

"There is no greater fool on earth," she said, "than the man who tries to pull himself out of trouble with a corkcreek."

FIXING HIS STATUS

Natives of Hiramville Discuss the New Arrival.

General Idea, According to Evidence Presented, is That There is Something Suspicious About Their Neighbor.

The natives of Hiramville were assembled around the postoffice, not to get any letters for themselves, but just to see if anybody got one. During the period of waiting they fell to discussing an individual who had lately built a house in their midst.

"I don't somehow seem to trust that fellow," said Uncle Silas Weewey, filling his corncob pipe with a mixture of shredded jute. "Tain't so much that I ain't got a likin' for city folks, but he's too kind o' genial fer me. Every time I meet him walkin' on the road he's got a nice, confidin' sort o' smile onto his face and a way o' holdin' out his hand t' be shook that reminds me of a feller I met once down to Boston that sold me a bunch o' greenbacks fer \$5, an' every dashed-bing one o' 'em was that bad I couldn't pass none o' 'em. I ain't had no confidence in gen'ral city fellers since."

"Same here, Sil," said Jabez Hawkins, the poundmaster. "I don't want to have no dealin' with him, nuther. Why, that feller comes t' me t' other day and offered to paint my house 'n barns free fer nothin' so's when he looked out o' the front window o' his house it'd make a pleasant outlook; an' by jinks, when I set him what he wanted to advertise onto 'em, he laffed an' said, 'nuthin' at all.' Ef he'd wanted to paint Use Slaters' soap or Biddad's old-fashioned mappin' juice or Aunt Marias' rat grits or suthin' o' that sort I could ha' seed some sense into it, but fur ez I could make out all he wanted was a good excuse fer lookin' out o' his windows inter mine, so I told him I guessed things was good enough fer me ez they was."

"Ye're dead right, Jabe," put in Hi Webster, the general storekeeper. "There's suthin' almighty queer about that feller. I had an experience with him on'y yesterday. He come inter my store, an' after pickin' out thutty dollars' worth o' groceries an' orderin' two lawn mowers and a washbrier sent down to his house he pulled out a wad o' money an' wanted to pay cash fer 'em. O' course I let him—they want nuthin' else to do—but I made up my mind then and that 'ar he wasn't a desirable customer. He showed he hadn't no overwelmin' belief in his own credit, and I tell ye, boys, when a feller can't trust hisself he ain't got no right t' ask nobody else t' trust him!"—Harper's Weekly.

Checked Career.

A career of strange adventures was recalled in London recently when a man named Seton appeared at the bankruptcy court for public examination. On coming of age in 1892 Seton succeeded to a sum of £25,000, and for ten years he traveled and engaged in prospecting, pearl dredging, and treasure hunting. He also took part in an expedition, having for its object a revolution in Honduras. Returning to England in 1904 with between £2,000 and £3,000, he engaged in magazine writing, and backed horses on a system of his own, losing the residue of his money. He then started with a partner as a dealer in pictures and works of art, with galleries at Putney and Clapham Junction. That business ended in a loss of £1,000 and a distress being put in for the rent. He also carried on a business under the style of the New Ventures Syndicate, with a capital of £3,000, all borrowed. Finding himself unable to raise more money, and being pressed, he left the office, and afterwards moved about from place to place "eluding writs." Failing to attend the bankruptcy court he was arrested on a warrant issued by the court.

Highest Price for a Poem. What is the highest price ever paid by a publisher for a poem? It would be interesting to know whether any advance has ever been made on the £3,000 that Scott received for "Rokeby."

Mr. Stephen Gwynn, in his "Life of Moore," tells us that Murray offered 2,000 guineas for the copyright of "Lalla Rookh," but Moore's friends thought he should have more and going to Longman they claimed no less than the highest price ever paid for a poem. That, said Longman, was £3,000 paid for "Rokeby."

"On this basis they treated, and Longman was inclined to stipulate for a preliminary perusal. Moore, however, refused and the agreement was finally worked. That upon your giving into our hands a poem of the length of 'Rokeby,' you shall receive from us a sum of £3,000."

New Napoleon Story. The French newspaper, Figaro quotes from a book which has been prepared by M. Louis Passy on the campaign of 1812 a hitherto unpublished story of Napoleon. One night the French troops, then retreating, crossed the Russian lines. To right and to left burned the camp fires of the Cossacks' bivouacs, and the blaze was very near. Napoleon turned suddenly to one of the officers of his escort.

"If I am going to be taken," he said brusquely, "kill me!" M. Passy takes the story from the memoirs of the officer to whom the words were spoken.

MRS. WOODROW WILSON ARTISTIC HOME-MAKER

Mrs. Wilson undoubtedly will feel the thrill produced in the heart of every born housekeeper by the contemplation of the possibilities which every new abode possesses—and such an abode! Though the task is too large for one woman to supervise, Mrs. Wilson probably will make a tour of inspection every day, and with her artistic knowledge and love of home making, will add many personal touches to the house and grounds.



The family probably will bring its negro servants, reminiscent of its southern home. Many of the servants at the White House are black. Thus Mrs. Wilson will not discontinue the eating of "chickens, southern style" and candied sweet potatoes. In fact, the home life of the family will simply be taken up bodily and deposited against another background with not one of its integral parts disturbed. The Misses Wilson have interests of the kind that take girls from the fireside into the world and probably will find little time with their added social duties to add their mother with the burdens of the establishment. Will they become frivolous or Washington society serious is the question everybody is asking.

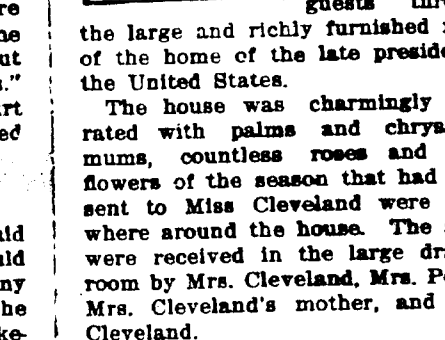
Will the presence of three young women of serious mind, instead of school girls or debutantes dreaming of their entrance into the world of society with the historic environment of the president's house, deprive Washington society of the informal dances and dinners which delighted the younger set during the last administration? Miss Margaret Wilson has a rich soprano voice, which has been trained under New York teachers. Miss Jessie Woodrow Wilson is a graduate of the Woman's college at Baltimore and has thrown herself heart and soul into sociological work. What the Lighthouse at Philadelphia, which is the scene of her settlement work, will do without her, or whether she will, as heretofore, spend only Sundays with her family, is not known. Miss Ellen Randolph Wilson has inherited her mother's skill with the brush and is a student at the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts. Will these young women give up their chosen avocations to live always in Washington?

That a family possessing such personality will make its imprint on the character and policy of entertaining at the White House is to be expected. The policy of the Taft regime caused the invitation lists to be reduced and the number of entertainments increased, so as to avoid the impersonal crashes which prevent "the first lady of the land" from really becoming acquainted with her guests.

Smart boy by boy scouts in finding a lost child is reported from Dunmow, Essex, England. On a recent evening a little child was lost at Little Barton. This was reported to Scoutmaster Lockin, who has the distinction of having recently been decorated with the silver wolf badge, the highest in the boy scout movement. Lockin collected his boy scouts, divided them in sections, mapped out the country thoroughly, and at nine o'clock in the evening they started in eight sections to beat the neighborhood. As they were getting to the end of the third section, about eleven o'clock, a child was heard crying. On searching they found the little child in the center of a wood.

"WHITE HOUSE BABY" INTRODUCED TO SOCIETY

The most brilliant social function that Princeton, N. J., has seen in many years took place at "Westlands," the Cleveland home, the other afternoon, when Miss Esther Cleveland made her formal debut into society. Society people from all of the large cities of the east were present and over four hundred guests thronged the large and richly furnished rooms of the home of the late president of the United States.



The house was charmingly decorated with palms and chrysanthemums, countless roses and other flowers of the season that had been sent to Miss Cleveland were everywhere around the house. The guests were received in the large drawing-room by Mrs. Cleveland, Mrs. Ferrine, Mrs. Cleveland's mother, and Miss Cleveland.

While Mrs. Cleveland did not desire to have anything detract from making it Miss Esther's day, yet she herself received congratulations, for it was the first time many had seen her since she announced her engagement to Prof. T. J. Preston, who was present.

Miss Cleveland was gowned for the afternoon tea in white chiffon trimmed with silver, while in the evening her costume was of blue chiffon trimmed with pearls.

Caters to Popular Demand. An enterprising Brooklyn dealer in second-hand furniture has hit upon a new plan for catering to the wants of his customers, whose preferences ran to goods left in flats by "going away" owners. To satisfy the demands for bargains of this peculiarity and at the same time keep his regular stock down to par this dealer rents flats, fits them out in tasty style, advertises that the late owner was called suddenly to Europe or Timbuctoo or some other place and then holds the auction. "There is a class of bargain hunters who have a leaning to this kind of sale and who will buy in no other way," he says in excuse for his new method. "I give them the bargains they are looking for and throw in ideas as to fitting up their flats." He says the departure pays.—New York Sun.

URGES BIG CHANGE

English Journal Advocates Letting Women Wear Custom of the Present Day is a Cause of Much Real Misery in Married Life, is the Declaration That is Made.

Surely the most foolish of all the many foolish conventions that ruin human joy is the decree that women must wait passively to be wooed. Now, why should they? Why can't they be natural and honest and show their feelings? Why must they be compelled to act as indifference quite foreign to them. Perhaps some of you hold with Shaw and Shakespeare that they don't want to be wooed. Some of them certainly don't. Generally speaking, however, few women even nowadays have the pluck to go dead against a convention of this sort, which has such a tremendously strong hold on the masculine sense of fitness.

If women's charm is to depend on this idiotic convention that men have created around her—namely, that she is a perfectly cold, passive, negative creature who waits in a state of suspended animation, as it were, until man condescends to make her come alive—the sooner the modern feminists invent some more reasonable tradition of charm the better for us all.

Now, let us suppose a couple that has overcome all the initial obstacles. They have managed the difficult task of finding each other, have put their declaration over, and are safely engaged. What happens next? Every possible thing that can be done to create an illusion around them is done. They are encouraged to meet often, but the conditions under which they meet are as different as can be from the conditions of their future married life. Does that man ever see that girl in any kind of negligee, or does she see him unshaved, etc? Does he have any experience of how she will run a house or manage a family? Does she have any chance of finding out that he's staidly about food or mean about money?

These are material things, it is true, and therefore not of the first importance; but, on the other hand, what chance do they have either to discover each other's spiritual state? Don't they, as a rule, act and sham all through, and dress up for each other, and spend their time under the most artificial conditions, pleasure seeking? Are they ever encouraged to have earnest conversations with each other to discuss the more serious aspects of their future life together? No, the entire business is conducted in the most absurdly irresponsible, unscrupulous, well-shake-down-all-right spirit, which would be comical but for the fact that the results are often so deeply tragical.—London Chronicle.

Boy Scouts Found Child. Smart boy by boy scouts in finding a lost child is reported from Dunmow, Essex, England. On a recent evening a little child was lost at Little Barton. This was reported to Scoutmaster Lockin, who has the distinction of having recently been decorated with the silver wolf badge, the highest in the boy scout movement. Lockin collected his boy scouts, divided them in sections, mapped out the country thoroughly, and at nine o'clock in the evening they started in eight sections to beat the neighborhood. As they were getting to the end of the third section, about eleven o'clock, a child was heard crying. On searching they found the little child in the center of a wood.

Old Ceremony Enacted.

The quaint old-time ceremony connected with the rendering of great services by the London Corporation to the Crown was recently attended by a large gathering in the law courts. The ceremony has not been performed for some 700 years, and consists of the cutting of two tuppets with a bill-hook and a hatchet, an quilt rent for a piece of land known as The Moor, in Salop, and the cutting of six horseshoes and 61 nails in respect of a forge in the parish of St. Clements, Dame. The ceremony took place before the King's Remembrancer, Sir John Macdonnell, and Sir Rowland Crawford, the city solicitor, attended on behalf of the city corporation.

His Challenge Fatal. The fashion of duelling seems to be spreading amongst the fair sex, as was demonstrated by evidence given in a case at Paris, the other day, of a servant girl, accused of murder. Three months ago the young woman, looking out from a window, saw a man with whom she had an old quarrel, and began chaffing him. Exasperated by her bitter tongue, the man shouted: "Come down into the street if you are not a coward!" The girl, nothing loath, flew downstairs and fell upon her foe, who a moment later lay dying in the gutter with his throat cut by a kitchen knife.

Want Release From Old Debt. Nine French banks are still engaged in paying off their respective shares of the indemnity of the Franco-Prussian war of 1870. When the French government was called upon to pay the indemnity it was arranged that every town in the country should pay its share, varying anywhere from \$2,500 to \$1,250,000. At the end of 4 years the nine villages are still in arrears. Several of them are bankrupt, and they have appealed to the state.

That one of the first things the House will do after congress reconvenes will be to pass the Monticello resolution favored by Mrs. Martin W. Littleton, wife of the New York representative, is the opinion of Representative Robert L. Henry of Texas, chairman of the rules committee.

Mrs. Littleton is going to keep up her fight to have the government purchase the home of Thomas Jefferson, now owned by Representative Jefferson M. Levy of New York. The resolution provides for an investigation of the subject in preparation for the purchase.

The senate has already passed the resolution. Hearings have been held by the house rules committee and the resolution is favored by a majority of the committee members. It was not considered in the house at the last session owing to the press of other business.

Mr. Levy is as determined as ever not to give up Monticello without a struggle. He will fight hard against the resolution when it comes up, and is trying to enlist the sympathies of other members of that body to help him keep his property. It is Mrs. Littleton's idea that the estate should be made a public park similar to Mount Vernon, which, however, is owned and maintained for the benefit of the public by a historical society.

ORIGIN OF MORSE CODE.

The Morse code, by which messages are flashed over the vast network of wires throughout the civilized world, was not the invention of Samuel F. B. Morse, but was of Irish origin, being the old Gaelic dot and dash alphabet in use as early as 1150.

This declaration by Prof. James Money before the Archaeological society of Washington at its meeting in the National museum, has stirred up a heated controversy.

Professor Money declared that the Gaelic alphabet, or the Ogem system, as it is known, was actually the basis of the so-called Morse code. He insisted his contention was fully carried out by the records of the ancient Irish people as found in stone and wooden carvings.

"There were seventeen letters in the Gaelic alphabet," he declared, "and they began with one dash, went up to five dashes, then from five dashes down to one dash, and then began the dots, very much the same as the Morse alphabet used in telegraphy."

BEDBUG IS CLASSIFIED.

Assistant Surgeon General W. C. Rucker of the United States public health service is authority for the declaration that the bedbug is not a "disgrace."

As far as he will go is to say that the notorious little insect is a "positive danger," inasmuch as it carries disease.

In a special report, Dr. Rucker says that the bedbug should be killed whenever he bores up, but to find him is nothing to be ashamed of. Dr. Rucker tells of ways to kill the bug. The best way, he says, is to see that he has nowhere to breed. Do away with wooden beds and get metal ones. After the bug gets in, dose him with kerosene, or boiling water and biclhoride, or fumigate him with sulphur.

BACHELOR COTILLON NO MORE.

The annual bachelor cotillon, at which the wives of presidents frequently have officiated as hostesses for the unmarried men in the diplomatic, legislative and society life of the capital, is no more.

Becoming too large to handle readily, the leaders have announced that the ball which for forty-five years has been one of the exclusive events of the season will no longer be held, and the organization will be disbanded. Mrs. Cleveland, Mrs. Roosevelt and Mrs. Taft all have been in the receiving lines at the receptions of the organization's annual affairs.

Professor Was a Wonder.

"Yes, sir," said the great professor to a gentleman to whom he had been introduced only a few moments ago. "I have given some attention to the study of human nature, and I rarely fail to read a face correctly. Now, there is a lady," he continued, pointing across the room, "the lines of whose countenance are as clear to me as type. The chin shows firmness of disposition amounting to obstinacy; the sharp-pointed nose a vicious temperament; the eyes, a dryness of soul; the—"

"Wonderful professor—wonderful!" "You know something of the lady, then?" said the professor, complacently.

"Yes, a little. She's my wife."

Largest Water Tank.

The water supply system of Calcutta includes the largest water tank in the world. It covers an area of two and one-third acres, and the total weight when it is full of water is 72,000 tons. There are thirty-two miles of steel joists in the vertical columns and bracing, and in the foundations twenty miles of steel joists and tie bars.

The capacity of the tank is 9,000,000 gallons of water. The tank acts as a balancer and to assist the pumps when they cannot send sufficient water into the mains to meet the demand. During the night hours, when the pumps provide more water than is required, the excess quantity goes into the tank; when the demand is greater the water from the tank flows automatically into the mains.

NEW MOVE IN NAVY

To Educate the Public in Needs of the Navy.

League Will Employ Retired Naval Officers to Lecture on the Necessity of Adequate Defense—Expect Good Results.

Washington.—Initiating a movement of the Navy league for the education of public opinion on the subject of the necessity of adequate naval defense, Col. Robert M. Thompson of New York and Washington delivered a lecture at Princeton university the other day. He was introduced by George B. McClellan, the subject of his lecture was "The Navy."

Within a few weeks the Navy league, which Colonel Thompson has done much to vitalize, will send Rear Admiral Richard Wainwright, retired; Commodore A. V. Washburn, retired, and other distinguished officers of the service to lecture on the navy before chambers of commerce and universities in the west and south. The organization of the Navy league is being rapidly extended.

That plain talk from great sea commanders will drive home in the minds of citizens of the nation the salient truths of the dependence of the country upon its fleet is fully realized by Colonel Thompson, Gen. Horace Porter, Mr. Henry H. Ward, Mr. A. H. Daddum and other prominent members of the Navy league. Few men can make a more effective address than "Dick" Wainwright, who fought the Gloucester so gallantly at Santiago and was a battleship and divisional commander in the cruise of the battleship fleet around the world.

But this is not all the Navy league is doing. An excursion of the Panama canal during January and February is in contemplation. The fundamental importance of the canal to American naval defense is apparent. Inquiries are now being sent out to all members of the Navy league to ascertain how many would like to make the voyage, which will also take in other points of interest in the Caribbean, consuming in time probably three weeks. A steamship may be chartered especially for the use of the party.

FOOT POWDER FOR SOLDIERS.

The war department, which is looking after the feet of enlisted men with renewed vigilance, has just ordered through the surgeon general's office 30,000 cans of foot powder to be used in connection with adhesive plaster, both of which articles will be supplied on requisition of medical officers.

The provisions of the general order, which provides for the proper protection of the feet of enlisted men, has attracted wide attention in the military service. Commanding officers have been discussing the extent to which they must personally fit the shoes to the feet of their men.

The "foot powder" order is regarded as acutely scientific and is said to be in extension of the work performed by the board of army officers following practical experiments with the styles of shoes best adapted to army wear.

CAUSE OF DISPUTE.

A heated discussion is raging before the Columbia Historical society over the common use of the title "White House" for the residence of the president of the United States.

One set of delvers into history declares the title is one of contempt bestowed on the historic mansion by the victorious British shortly after they partially burned it in the war of 1812; others maintain that the name was given the building in honor of Mrs. Martha Washington, wife of the first president, whose girlhood home on the York river in Virginia bore it. AF ready the society is divided into two camps and an embryonic movement to petition for the changing of the name of the building is bitterly opposed by the "pro-White Housers," as they have been designated.

23,000 ARE NOT IN SCHOOLS.

In the nation's capital more than 23,000 children are not attending school and thousands are packed away in the 140 noisome, thickly populated alleys which are the capital's "core spot," according to Maj. Richard Sylvester, superintendent of police. The police chief told the Presbyterian Men's club, in connection with the home missionary movement, that the condition of children in what was thought to be the model city of the country was had beyond belief.

MONEY FOR ARTIFICIAL LIMBS.

The surgeon general of the army estimates that \$85,000 will be required for the purchase of artificial limbs and apparatus during the coming year. Last year 94 artificial legs, one foot and five arms were distributed to afflicted soldiers. Under the act of congress of June, 1870, and subsequent amendments, 23,527 disabled soldiers and sailors have been furnished artificial limbs or apparatus, or have received compensation in money.