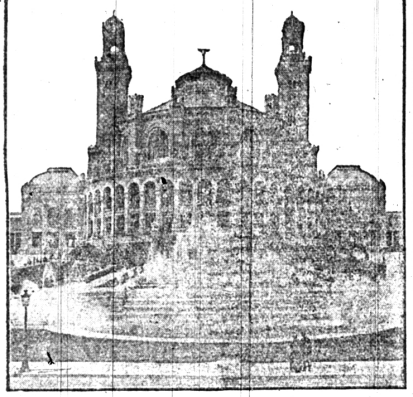
Home of French Kings a Veritable Paradise

Palace and Grounds at Versailles One of the Show Places of France—Was the Favorite Abode of the Unfortunate and Pleasure-Loving Marie Antoinette.

(Special Correspondence.)

NOTED suburb of Paris is Versailles, made illustrious in the reign of Louis XIV., though the older portions belonged to the time of Louis XIII. The palace of this name, part stone and part brick, is built about a large open square. The main building was the royal residence, while the ministers of the monarch occupied the wings.

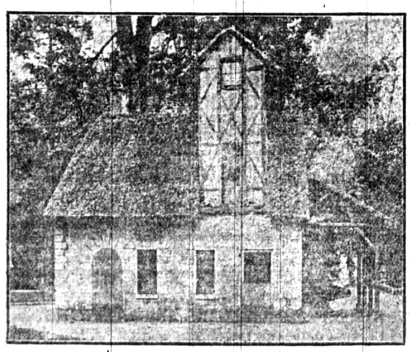
The ground floor is used as a gallery for paintings and sculpture. The royal apartments occupied by Louis XIV. are elaborate. There are five rooms that bear the names of the planets. The presiding divinity and his attributes are represented on the ceiling. Some of these in the time of Louis were set apart for games, others for music and dancing. That of Venus was the refreshment-room. The doors of the apartment, as well as the handles, locks and window sashes, have some fine carvings. The entire room is filled with beautiful marbles. Diana is the room of Diana, which used to be the billiard-room; the ceiling represents the goddess as ancestress of navigation and the hunt. The rarest bit of furnishing is a table topped with Florentine relics. The room of Mars is worthy because of its animal decorations, the ceiling reveals the god of war in a car drawn by wolves. Over the fireplace is a picture of Louis XIV. as a child on horseback, with the bridge of Pont Neuf in the background, formerly it was hung with tapestry representing the history of the king. The most luxuriant room of this suite was used by Louis as a state chamber and had a bed made of silver costing $140,000.



Palais du Trocadero.

Louis XIV.'s desire for luxury is seen in the great glass gallery. Ludwig of Bavaria admired this hall so much that he had it reproduced at Herrenchiemsees. The gallery is more than 240 feet long and thirty feet broad. The many windows overlooking the gardens are alternated by high mirrors joined with wrought copper. In the reign of that lavish potentate the windows were curtained with white damask brocade with gold, and the chandeliers, stools, boxes and bowls were of silver. Important court fetes were given here.

Having visited Versailles, with its extensive gardens, there still remained the Grand and Small Trianons. The Grand Trianon was built by Louis XIV. as a place of rest from his public cares. Mme. de Maintenon and the Duchess of Bourgogne were both fond of Trianon. Napoleon, who often stayed there, had the place refurnished. The finest suite in the apartments that were occupied by Mme. de Maintenon, Mme. Pompadour and Napoleon. They include the emperor's workroom, ballroom, bedchamber and yellow room.



The Little Trianon.

As characteristic as is the Great Trianon of the life and court of Louis XIV., so linked is the Little Trianon with the history of Marie Antoinette. Much dearer to her was the modest abode than the more pretentious palaces of Versailles and Fontainebleau. This retreat of the queen caused many to accuse her of ruining France with her follies. It was here that she learned of the approach of the Parisian mob and the need of leaving her favorite haunts forever. In the last hours of imprisonment and keen suffering she and her two loyal companions recalled the bright days they had passed in the charming gardens and dainty apartments of the Little Trianon. Also the hours they whiled away in the Hamlet, a cluster of unique houses known as the mill, the billiard-house, queen's house, the dairy and the Marlborough tower. The queen and her companions are no longer seen wandering over the grounds dressed in their simple white frocks, playing the part of dairy maids.

The buzz of the mill and the click of the churns are no longer heard and yet the closed farmhouses, the quiet stream and overhanging rocks recall romances that breathe with charm and laughter mixed with tears. An hour's drive along a pleasant road brought us to the forest of St. Cloud, where Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette tried to make their escape across the frontier only to be brought back to Paris. This was the palace in which Napoleon dispelled the assembly and declared himself first consul; during the siege of Paris in 1870 the château and many other houses were burned to the ground, though those deep forests with their overarching trees still stand to remind us of that past glory.

Lovely as Versailles and the forests of St. Cloud are, they are rivaled by the palaces and forests of Fontainebleau. The origin of this palace dates back to the twelfth century. Louis VII. loved this secluded spot and here founded a consecrated chapel. It was under Francis I. that the palace attained its present magnificence, no lesser artists than Leonardo da Vinci and Andrea del Sarto were engaged to decorate its interior. It was here that rich feasts, lively tournaments and gallant adventures took place. The queen of these court fetes was Anne de Pesselieu, Duchess of Etampes, who was celebrated for her great beauty. Mary of the later French kings spent much of their time at this ideal spot and there was nothing that King Louis and Marie Antoinette enjoyed more than hunting in the forests of Fontainebleau.

The first suite worthy of notice are the apartments of Napoleon I. The antechamber has a fine clock in the Louis XVI. style, showing the days, months, phases of the moon and the seasons. The bathroom is lovely, consisting of cupids, birds among the flowers, arabesques on a background of mirrors. The handsomest of these rooms is the council hall; it is decorated with white and rosy cupids, red and blue damaleux framed in arabesques. The furniture of this room is in Beauvais tapestry, and the immense table in the center is of one block of wood from St. Lucia. Passing by many handsome apartments we must take cognizance of the ballroom called the Gallerie de Henri II., which is done in the best French renaissance. The room is lighted by immense windows that overlook the court and the flower beds. The ceiling is made up of octagonal divisions with marked relievers from which project the crescent of the king, his initials and his motto, "Until he fills all the universe." But what makes this room priceless are the allegorical and mythological scenes painted on the walls and recesses by Nicolo dell Abbate.

The forests of Fontainebleau are the most beautiful woods in France and cover an area of more than 40,000 acres.

LAWSON AND HIS FRIENDS.

Great Financier Must Be a Pleasant Man to Meet.

Thomas W. Lawson, who has taken a wonderful place in the front ranks of financial circles during the past few years, despite the criticism to which a man in his position is naturally subjected, is a man with a big heart, and for his friends there is nothing too good.

This disposition shows itself in an unostentatious way very frequently, and without it coming to the knowledge of the public. Only a year or two ago, on a certain day when he was taking an active hand in a sugar drive on the short side, and while standing personally over the ticker in his old office on Congress street—Brown, Riley & Co.—a friend walked into the office, and going up to him began to "jolly" him a little about sugar and told him that he was on the wrong side of the market.

Whereupon Mr. Lawson turned to his broker, who was standing near, and said, without any comment: "Sell for Mr. ——, my friend here, 300 shares of sugar short at market."

The order was immediately executed, and within fifteen minutes the price dropped five points. The stock was covered only. Mr. Lawson pulled out the profit that had been made in crisp greenbacks—$1,500—and turned it over to his skeptical friend, who expressed his gratitude in a very emphatic manner.

Merely a pleasant Lawson eccentricity.

A NEGATIVE MAN IS NAUGHT.

Confidence in One's Self Absolutely Essential to Success.

A vacillating, undecided, negative man can never amount to anything, no matter what his environment or advantages may be. It would be impossible. He constantly subordinates his opinions and even his plans to what others say and think. There is no certainty as to his action, because he is always subject to outside influences. He never relies upon himself or the inward authority that speaks to him. He is the echo of the last man who pleaded his case before him. He is remagnetized every time he comes in contact with a new personality. Blown hither and thither by advice and opinions as opposite as the poles, like a leaf whirled on the autumn wind, no one, not even himself, knows where he will alight.

The man who lives to any purpose or accomplishes anything of good in the world has an abiding faith in himself, in his forcefulness and originality, in his efficiency in the management of his own affairs, and in his power to accomplish whatever he puts himself to do.—O. S. Marden, in Success.

ROOSEVELT AND THE BEARS.

Chief Executive Safe in Promising Them a Position.

Two bears, one real and the other an impersonation, looking for the president, were features of the Gridiron club dinner at Washington a few weeks ago.

The guests were informed by one of the bears that they were from Mississippi. As the president had not found them they decided to find the president.

This mild allusion to the president's hunting trip pleased the executive immensely. "If they call on me," said Mr. Roosevelt, "I can do something for the real bear which I cannot do for the impersonator."

"And what is that?" asked the gentleman, who had told him about the dinner.

"I'll give him a cabinet position," explained the president, smiling, and then, by way of explanation, added, "after he is stuffed."

Thought He Was Obeying Orders.

"It was in a Penn avenue saloon that this happened. A young man, fresh from Ireland, had been engaged as a bartender, a position that had been obtained through the influence of a friend of the saloon keeper. The new man was awful green, but after working with him several days the proprietor of the place had an errand down the street, and he decided to leave his new man in charge for a few minutes. He gave him a number of instructions and departed.

No sooner had he gone than a couple of men came in and asked for a drink. They were dirt-begrimed and wore small lamps on their caps and the bartender eyed them suspiciously. "What d' yez do fur a livin'?" he asked.

"We dig coal," was the reply.

"Well, ye can't hev anything to drink."

"An' why not?"

"Th' boss towld me not to sell t' minchs."—Pittsburg Press.

"Uncle" Russell Sage's Wit.

Not long ago George W. Perkins, J. Pierpont Morgan's partner, noticed the aged Russell Sage poking his cane about in the gutter at the corner of Broad and Wall streets. He hurried over to Mr. Sage and asked him what he was looking for.

The past master in finance replied: "While buying a newspaper I dropped a cent in the gutter and it has actually reduced me to poverty."

"How can that be?" queried Mr. Perkins with surprise.

"Why, don't you see, it makes me a penny-less man," chuckled the dean of the street as he strolled away, apparently as happy as if he had made a lucky turn for a few thousands.—New York Times.

Breakfast Food.

The Eskimo stood before his wife, wrapped in her furs, with a look of despair on his face.

"The blubber is gone, we've eaten the last dog and my boots are too thin to make soup of," said the citizen of the far north. "Starvation stares us in the face."

But Mrs. Eskimo smiled serenely. "Not yet," she answered. "I have been reading the advertisements in the magazines and know the value of patent breakfast foods."

The husband looked puzzled.

"We will have a nice dish of flaked snow for breakfast!" concluded his loving wife triumphantly.

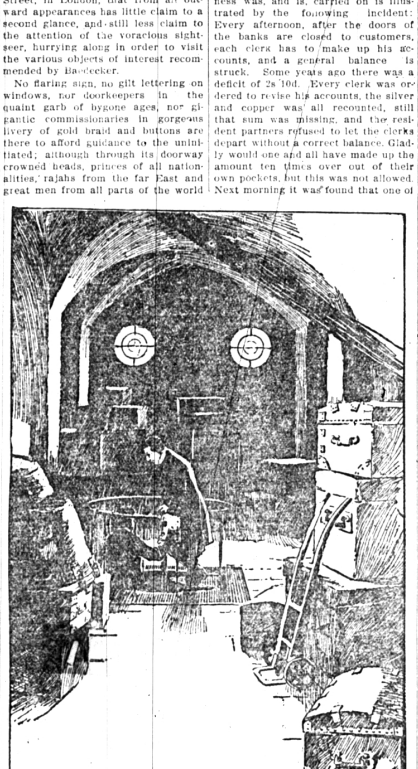
Famous London Bank Established Long Ago

House of Coutts & Co. Dates Back to 1692—Still a Power in the Financial World—Treasure Chests That Have Lain Untouched for Centuries.

(Special Correspondence.)

NEW YORK may point to Wall Street as the hub of the financial universe, and may with pardonable pride direct the casual visitor to a few solid old banking houses that have withstood "Black Fridays" and crashes and panics for several generations, but Wall Street is a child, and its oldest concerns have hardly reached the knickerbocker age as compared with a dingy building on the south side of the Strand, almost opposite Bedford Street, in London, that from all outward appearances has little claim to a second glance, and still less claim to the attention of the voracious sightseer, hurrying along in order to visit the various objects of interest recommended by Baedeker.

No flaring sign, no gilt lettering on windows, nor doorkeepers in the quaint garb of bygone ages, nor gigantic commissionaries in gorgeous livery of gold braid and buttons are there to afford guidance to the uninitiated; although through its doorway crowned heads, princes of all nationalities, rajahs from the far East and great men from all parts of the world pass and repass, their footsteps echoing as they traverse the worn stone passages. Many leave some addition to the vast hoard of treasure which fills the vaulted chambers—said to be the best constructed strong rooms in the world, with the exception of those of the Bank of England.



Vaults Wherein are Stored Boxes and Chests Which Have Not Been Disturbed for Over Two Hundred Years.

This dingy building is the home of Coutts & Co., famous in the annals of banking, and a name to conjure with in all the capitals of Europe and in lands beyond the seas.

Thomas Coutts, who may be regarded as the real founder of the present bank, was the youngest son of an Edinburgh banker, and could boast of being connected with the nobility, as an ancestor had married a granddaughter of the first Earl of Dundonald.

Thomas and his elder brother, Thomas, being junior partner—the firm being known as James & Tjomas Coutts.

At that time there were only two banking houses on the west side of Temple Bar—those of Campbell and Drummond.

Prosperous for those days as the Coutts at Edinburgh, where the yearly takings there were equaled the lowest weekly returns of Coutts & Co. in London. In the early days of the London business one ledger sufficed for the names of the customers from A to Z. Now about 50 are required.

The precision with which the business was, and is, carried on is illustrated by the following incident: Every afternoon, after the doors of the banks are closed to customers, each clerk has to make up his accounts, and a general balance is struck. Some years ago there was a deficit of 2s 10d. Every clerk was ordered to revise his accounts, the silver and copper was all recounted, still that sum was missing, and the resident partners refused to let the clerks depart without a correct balance. Gladly would one and all have made up the amount ten times over out of their own pockets, but this was not allowed. Next morning it was found that one of the non-resident partners had taken the exact amount to pay the postage on a foreign letter.

The traditions of Coutts & Co. are religiously kept up even to this day. There are eight partners and a staff of 125 clerks. They have an unwritten law as to dress, of being clean-shaven, to which every one conforms; the rooms over the bank consist of charmingly arranged quarters for the resident clerks; the Baroness's drawing room, with a beautifully carved white marble mantlepiece and some old and rare pieces of furniture, an armory and a library. The latter was fitted up and presented to the staff by the present Baroness. The firm maintains it.

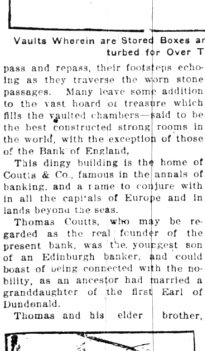
A tour through the strong rooms is a thing to be remembered and one attended with considerable ceremony. Not even one of the partners nor any member of the staff ever goes alone. They must have one of the watchmen to accompany them. On entering each room the door is carefully locked and bolted. There is one door leading out into a narrow street that weighs a ton. The rooms are piled with boxes and chests of all sizes, some that have not been disturbed for nearly 200 years, and are never likely to be. What secrets and treasures they may contain the world will never know.

All are labeled, some with the names of great people long since dead and gone, others with names nearly obliterated.

"What do they contain, and will they ever be claimed?" we asked.

"We do not know; it is not our business. We are only the custodians, and here they remain until they are claimed," was the reply.

Oh, what material for articles and books those sealed boxes must hold! Perhaps long-sought-for wills, family secrets, prized heirlooms and jewels securely hidden from hated heirs. Imagination runs riot until our guide attracts our attention to a fourteenth century chest. It was one of the safes of the past and used for preserving papers and articles of value before later were invented. If space permitted, much more could be said about these royal bankers and their "historic" house, their old-fashioned courtesy to rich and poor alike—to a royal personage or to the most humble depositor. It is the noblesse oblige which might well be their motto.



Home of Famous Banking Firm.

Terms Used in Iron Foundry.

When iron is melted it is run off in a channel called a "sow." The word has nothing to do with swine, but is derived from the Saxon "sawan"—to scatter. Still, it is owing to the term that the bars of iron cooled in the lateral grooves of the "sow" are called "pig."

LIVE SOAP

Combined Feed for Pigs.

At the Kentucky station a comparison was made of various feeds for pigs. Corn was fed alone and also combined with other feeds, these being soy bean silage, soy beans and dried distillery grains. Drawing conclusions from the experiment Prof. D. W. May says: The results of these experiments, like those of several previously made, indicate that in feeding pigs, corn should be combined with other feeds to get the best returns. Experiments indicate that silage can not be profitably substituted for a part of the grain ration with pigs. In this experiment it was fed in addition with some profit, giving quicker gains and keeping the animals in better condition. Soy beans made an excellent pig feed mixed with corn in the proportion of one to two. Being rich in protein, it is recommended as an especially efficient addition to the ration when corn composes the larger part. Dried distillery grains proved to be a poor pig feed, except in small proportions. When fed as one-third or one-half of the ration with corn it was unprofitable. When it composed one-fifth of the ration very good returns were obtained. Cottonseed meal may be profitably used to finish hogs for market. In such cases it may be safely fed in quantities of one-half pound per pig daily and then omitted during periods of alternate weeks.

Feeding in Open Sheds or Barns.

The results of the tests on feeding in barns and open sheds at the Missouri station came as a surprise to those that have so long declared that beef steers should be fed in warm barns. The station entered into an extensive correspondence with feeders throughout the state asking their opinion in the matter. Only 18 per cent favored feeding in barns; 59 per cent practicing feeding in open sheds, and 23 per cent in open lots. Four tests were made, the steers each time being fed similar rations of corn and hay. In the first test the average daily gain of steers fed in barns was 1.47; of those fed in sheds 1.72. In the second trial the gains were for those fed in barns 1.55 and for those fed in open sheds 2.3, while similar gains made by steers fed in an open lot were 2.29 pounds per day. In the third test steers fed in barns gained on an average 1.67 per head daily; those fed in the open sheds 1.65, and those fed in the open lots 1.78. In the fourth test the cattle fed in barns gained 1.83 per day; those fed in open sheds gained 1.67, and those fed in the open lots gained 2.09. This showed that barn feeding, at least in the latitude of Columbia, was not a profitable operation.

Some Conclusions on Sheep Feeding.

As a result of some feeding experiments made at the Iowa station, Prof. W. J. Kennedy holds the following opinion: Corn at 33 cents per bushel is a more economical grain to feed sheep on grass than oats at 23 cents or barley at 40 cents. Mutton can be produced much more economically during the summer months on grass alone or grain and grass than it can be produced by feeding grain and hay during the fall and winter months. The feeder can oftentimes purchase half-fat lambs during the latter part of April or the first part of May, and, by grazing them for from 40 to 60 days, realize a good profit, due to the advance in market prices during the latter part of June and the first of July over those ruling in April and the first part of May. Sheep can be fattened economically on grass and corn or on grass alone. Soy beans, on account of their high protein content, should not form the sole grain ration in conjunction with clover hay.

Spaying Animals.

From Farmers' Review: The practice of spaying females to prevent reproduction is almost abandoned. The early maturing animal scarcely gets old enough for reproduction until it is sent to the market. This was a common practice in earlier days when hogs were allowed to run at large and were kept one or two years before sending them to the market. Rather than run the risk of losing any of the animals by an operation, it is a better method to keep the gilts until seven to nine months old and then sell them. One month of pregnancy is not objectionable in the sow. If allowed to run near time of farrowing, however, the animal, of course, is unfit for market. No animal should be castrated or spayed immediately after weaning. The latter alone tends to check growth and the young animal should become accustomed to doing without its favorite food before its system is shocked by castration.—W. B. Anderson.

The Lunch at the Hog Sale.

A. G. Woodbury: From the "good old times," there has been handed down the custom of free entertainment to man and beast. Select a homelike house. If you want a good sale, don't take your buyers to a cheap hotel. Clean beds and well served meals make the animal, man, in better humor to buy hogs. The strong argument against free hotels, is the expense. This proffer to parties from a distance has rarely been abused with us. Our last bill was $57.00. It came back to us many times. A simple abundant lunch of hot coffee with pure cream and sugar as wanted, served in tin cups; sandwiches not too dry, made of bun, butter and ham and a few of ground beef; pickles; small cakes and pie. This is the best ever served at our sales and gives satisfaction. Big dinners are not necessary.

The Cochins were introduced from China about 1848 and their popularity in this country produced what we now humorously call the "hen fever." So great was the desire to possess them that fabulous prices were paid. In England $500 was frequently paid for a single cock, and equally high price in this country.

MADE A NAME QUICKLY.

New Congressman Becomes Popular in Washington.

When Capt. Gardner arrived in Washington to take his seat in the house he was welcomed by Secretary Moody with the facetious greeting: "You are entering a congress badly handicapped. You have to live down a father-in-law, a predecessor, and a bad reputation." Gardner has been here a fortnight and he has already overcome his handicap. His first chance came at the Gridiron dinner a few days after his arrival, when he gave a talk which was a gem of postprandial oratory. He held his own in unaccustomed surroundings and tossed back telling retorts at malicious interruptions, until Speaker-to-Be Cannon turned to Speaker Henderson with the remark, "That boy is all right. He can take care of himself anywhere."

At the Tantalus dinner Gardner gave a line that will live in history when he referred to Littlefield as the man "whose name was never sullied by being attached to a majority report." So that, thanks to his readiness, Gardner is already better known in the house than many a man who has been here for years.—Boston Journal.

Thought She Would Go Crazy.

Hulls, Ill., Jan. 26th.—"I couldn't sit longer than five minutes in one place. I was always tired, but could not rest or sleep. I couldn't help crying and feeling that something awful was just about to happen. I thought I would go crazy." In this way does Mrs. A. M. Fysh of this place tell of the illness from which she has just recovered.

Mrs. Fysh's case was remarkable. If she fell asleep she would wake up frightened, her mouth dry and her nerves all worked up. She was lonesome and melancholy even when surrounded by loving friends. Her bones ached. She had to make water four or five times every night. She was constipated. She had a voracious appetite, yet was always hungry between meals. She coughed up a great deal of white phlegm.

She heard of Dodd's Kidney Pills and after using them says:

"By the time I had taken five boxes I was a new woman. I can not tell how much good they did for me. Before using Dodd's Kidney Pills life was such a drag to me. Now I can do my work and feel glad that I have work to do. I am completely restored."

Morocco Troops Move.

Tangier, Morocco, cablegram: Four columns of troops have left Fez for Taza. The sultan's brother commands one of them, and the war minister, Gen. Menebhi, is in command of another.

Dr. Lorenz Leaves London.

London cable: Dr. Lorenz, the Austrian surgeon for Vienna, said before starting for Austria that he had been rather coldly received by many English surgeons, who view his methods with suspicion.

MACCABEES, ATTENTION!

Commander of Garfield Hive, East Toledo, wakes to be of some benefit to suffering humanity. In speaking of the affair, said: "I was saved from the consumption after my case had been pronounced incurable and hope is by eminent physicians; if any one is will rid from this dread disease and will write me I will gladly tell without cost how it was done at home; my sole object is to be of some benefit to humanity. Address Mrs. H. A. Knowles, 811 Moore St., Toledo, Ohio.

It was a scoffing man who said, having been introduced to my metaphysical friend, that he should say, he had met a physical wreck.

In Winter Use Allen's Foot-Ease.

A powder. Your feet feel uncomfortable, nervous and often cold and damp. If you have sweating, sore feet or tight shoes, try Allen's Foot-Ease. Sold by all druggists and shoe stores, 25 cents. Sample rent free. Address Allen S. Olmsted Le Roy, N. Y.

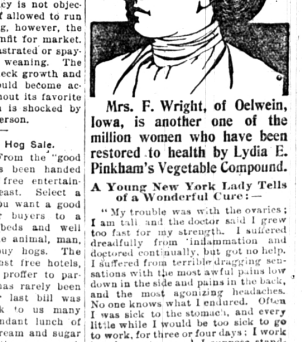
"The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up those that be bowed down."

If you wish beautiful, clear, white clothes use Red Cross Ball Blue. Large 2 oz. package, 5 cents.

Pride needs to look out for puncture.

Tonsilline Cures Sore Throat.

Virtue is wealth.



Mrs. F. Wright, of Oelwein, Iowa, is another one of the million women who have been restored to health by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

A Young New York Lady Tells of a Wonderful Cure:—

"My trouble was with the ovaries; I am tall and the doctor said I grew too fast for my strength. I suffered dreadfully from inflammation and doctored continually, but got no help. I suffered from terrible dragging sensations with the most awful pains low down in the side and pains in the back, and the most agonizing headaches. No one knows what I endured. Often I was sick to the stomach, and every little while I would be too sick to go to work, for three or four days; I work in a large store, and I suppose standing on my feet all day made me worse.

"At the suggestion of a friend of my mother's I began to take **Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound**, and it is simply wonderful. I felt better after the first two or three doses; it seemed as though a weight was taken off my shoulders; I continued its use until now I can be thoroughly well and entirely cured. Young girls who are always paying doctor's bills without getting any help as I did, ought to take your medicine. It costs not much less, and it is sure to cure them.—Yours truly, ADELAIDE PEARL, 174 St. Ann's Ave., New York City." — $5000 forfeit if above letter proving genuineness cannot be produced.