THORNS IN THE ROSE OF PLENTY

NOT ALL FUN TO BE WEALTHY

Men of Millions Condemned to Isolation in Life, Pursued by Selfish Greed, While After Death There Are Spurious Widows, Will Contests, and Half a Hundred Other Kindred Ills.

New York.—The embarrassment of riches is, of course, proverbial. To-day the burden of wealth is probably greater for the possessors of great fortunes than ever before. A multi-millionaire is a marked man. He is denied privacy even in the most intimate family relations, and he is constantly beset by armies of beggars and must be guarded like any king. At his death hordes of claimants fight over his property, his memory is bitterly attacked and his character perhaps blasted by unscrupulous heirs through long years of litigation.

A short time ago Mr. James Henry Smith, universally known as "Silent Smith," a man of great wealth and the dispenser of wide private benefactions, suddenly died. He had lived a life of singular seclusion. A man of very simple tastes and habits, he had always shunned notoriety in every form. Any ordinary man of his character might have enjoyed a secluded life, but for Mr. Smith it was a constant effort to live his own life in his own way. On his death it was announced that he had left a fortune of more than $50,000,000. The embarrassment of riches has literally followed him into his grave. Instantly a crowd of relatives and claimants, many of whom he had never known, appeared on the scene.

His widow is obliged to retain the best counsel and instantly prepare for a long and presumably bitter conflict in order that his dying wishes as expressed in his will may be carried out. In this undignified scramble for his millions every detail of his life will be gone into, and this by expert lawyers and in no friendly spirit. Mr. Smith's private benefactions were many and varied and his character will stand the test, but it is a situation which would have given him great pain in anticipation. The situation is peculiarly a burden of the rich.

Bodyguards of the Rich.

It is no exaggeration to say that scores of millionaires in New York, in order to gain privacy in their homes, are guarded quite as closely as any king. It is literally true that the president of the United States is much more easy to approach by any ordinary citizen than many owners of great fortunes. It is not generally known for instance, that whereas any one might call up the president by telephone, or at least the White House, it is impossible to do the same with many New York millionaires. The names of the possessors of great fortunes do not appear in the telephone directories. These men are not without telephone communication with the outside world, but they choose to have private wires laid to their houses, in order to avoid the annoyance of being continually rung up. In other words, these houses are far more isolated than the average private residence, and the inconvenience they must endure is of course obvious. While they can ring up anyone, they themselves cannot be called on the telephone except by the chosen few who have their private numbers, so that the seclusion works both ways.

In the matter of personal mail, again, the possession of wealth and the notoriety it inevitably brings **is a** source of great inconvenience. The mail of a multi-millionaire is likely to be so heavy that a secretary perhaps a considerable staff of them, is employed to care for it. This mail is of course, for the most part unsolicited. Mr. Andrew Carnegie for instance, receives on an average from 400 to 800 letters a day making direct appeals for charity. His own personal mail, which is naturally large, is not included in this number.

Guarding Private Estates.

The country establishments of the very wealthy must again be even more carefully guarded. A few years ago it was common for the grounds of great estates to be opened at certain hours at least to the public, but to-day such privileges are rarely granted. In almost every case such places are completely walled in and the various entrances are closely guarded. No matter how far from the mansion may be the lodge, no one is permitted to enter until he has been announced by telephone and permission has been granted. Mr. John D. Rockefeller, for instance, is as closely guarded in his estate at Tarrytown or in Cleveland as is royalty. Even a person stopping before one of these entrances is closely watched. The estate of Mr. George Gould, at Lakewood, is guarded in the same way, while others might be cited.

A famous murder recently has directed attention to the very general use which is made of private detectives by people of great wealth. The fact comes as a surprise to many. So quiet a figure and so much beloved a character as Miss Helen Gould, for instance, frequently employs private detectives as a safeguard against robbery. Many well-known millionaires go about accompanied by a gentleman-ly-looking detective, who acts as a bodyguard. In many cases these men are not employed so much to guard against robbery as to protect them in case they should be threatened with actual bodily harm. Should the mail of some wealthy man contain some threatening letter it is not uncommon for a detective to be called in and engaged for a few days, perhaps for a long period, either to run down the writer of the letter or to personally accompany the wealthy man to and from his office.

Detectives Always on Hand.

Even in their most private social functions it is common for people of great wealth to employ detectives, sometimes several of them being on hand. Some years ago Mrs. A. T. Stewart appeared on the piazzas of summer hotels with a detective hovering within a few feet of her to safeguard the fortune in diamonds she wore. To-day things are differently managed, but the necessity for protection is none the less real. Fashionable weddings where a fortune in wedding gifts are known to be collected, are almost always policed. It is common for a private detective agency to be called upon and the entire arrangement looking toward its protection placed in their hands. The detective in charge goes over the ground and places his men long before the ceremony. Some of the detectives will masquerade as guests in frock coats. Still others may be disguised as servants. One or more men will, of course, be on constant guard in the rooms where the presents are displayed.

Even the pleasure of distributing charities becomes a very complex and irksome affair when the sum to be distributed reaches enormous proportions. During one's lifetime, at least, it would seem that it would be an easy matter to dispose of money. As a matter of fact, many men and women of great wealth are obliged to place their benefactions upon a regular business basis in order not to be robbed. Several men of great wealth, notably Mr. Rockefeller, are compelled to employ men at large salaries, who are in turn assisted by staffs of clerks, to examine into the demands made upon them and after investigation decide just how the money shall be distributed. It is certainly no fun to enjoy the pleasure of giving at the expense of all this complicated and irksome business detail.

Charity Misunderstood.

A man in the ordinary walks of life, again, who contributes to a church or endows a hospital or a college may be generally praised for doing so, but for a man of great wealth it is difficult to make any gift without being misunderstood, perhaps severely and bitterly criticised. The white light which beats upon a throne is turned on his slightest act. The very possession of such great wealth serves to antagonize a considerable proportion of the community, and his most praiseworthy act is attributed to interior motives, perhaps to very selfish and unworthy ones. One of the most familiar instances of this is the case of a man who ranks among the most liberal distributors of public benefactions in the world to-day, whose name is on every one's tongue, and yet he is the subject of bitter attack, and his benefactions are attributed to his desire to place certain securities in conservative hands throughout the country. It is, of course, impossible to please everyone, and the dissatisfied element are certain to feel a bitterness in direct ratio to the size of the fortunes involved.

The diseases of the rich are still another disturbing factor in this balance. It is no exaggeration to place a number of distressing physical ills in this category. The nervous and mental strain of handling a great fortune is exceedingly trying upon the strongest organization. It was Jay Gould who remarked, during the excitement of a great financial panic, that a man controlling a fortune of $50,000,000 had no time either to eat or sleep. A man in active control of a great fortune is obviously under a tremendous strain. As a result cases of physical breakdown in Wall street are common, and men young in years are often old in health.

Kidnaping Plots.

It is only a short time since a plot was revealed to kidnap John D. Rockefeller and hold him for the payment of an immense ransom. Here is another danger which a man less conspicuous for his wealth avoids. The case was, of course, unusual, but, on the other hand, the fear of kidnaping hangs very heavily over the families of the rich. As a result the children of families of great fortune have, as a matter of fact, less liberty than children of families in much poorer circumstances.

The fear of blackmail, again, is much more general than is generally supposed. The mail of practically all men of great wealth constantly brings them threats of every possible kind. The person who attempts blackmail may have no incriminating knowledge whatever. In most cases he probably has not, but the menace is none the less disconcerting. A considerable part of the public is always ready to believe the worst of men in high places, and a clever blackmailer may do incalculable harm.

Our great modern fortunes, again, are often amassed with amazing rapidity. It has never before in history been possible to accumulate such wealth in so short a period. It is forgotten that there is another side to this situation, and that the danger of losing such fortunes is correspondingly great. The financiers, while they make enormous gains, must also face frightful losses. Scores of men might be mentioned who have risen to great wealth in a few years, only to fall again and be forgotten. The experience of James R. Keene, for instance, who has several times been worth millions and at other times been millions in debt, has many counterparts on a smaller scale. The struggle for wealth is so frantic and the element of chance so great in the manipulation of great sums of money that it is perhaps more difficult to retain money than to acquire it.

Size of the Appendix.

The size of the appendix varies according to age and to persons. Its length averages from three to three and a half inches. The appendix of the man is slightly larger than that of the woman.

Never So Nervous as That.

There are nervous women; there are hyper-nervous women. But women so nervous that the continual rustle of a silk skirt makes them nervous—no, there are no women so nervous as that.—Fliegende Blaetter.

Drums Used for Centuries.

The Ancient Romans used hand drums in their religious dances, and more than a thousand years ago other nations used them to give signals in war.

Catholic Church in Australia.

The Roman Catholic church is growing with great rapidity in Australia, yet there are those who can remember the time when there was not a priest on the entire continent.

Rocket Mail Carriers.

The most unique method of delivering mail, doubtless is that employed by steamers passing the islands of the Tonga group in the Pacific. On account of many reefs landing is extremely dangerous, and the few letters to be delivered are attached to large skyrockets which are fired and reach the shore in safety.

Woman and Her Tips.

When a woman comes to the point of tipping mechanically on the lines laid down by man it is usually her lack of experience which finds her at fault. Very few members of the sex have entered into the necessary considerations which adjust tips. It is a complicated matter which must be studied under male tuition.

Bugle Takes Drum's Place.

The drum seems to be falling into disrepute in our army. There was a time when the infantry used the drum and fife to sound the "calls"—tattoo, reveille taps, etc.—but of late years the bugle has been substituted, and is now used in all branches of the service.

Proof of Power.

The man who is worthy of being a leader of men will never complain of the stupidity of his helpers, of the ingratitude of mankind nor of the inappreciation of the public. These things are all a part of the great game of life and to meet them and not go down before them in discouragement and defeat is the final proof of power. —Elbert Hubbard.

Danger in Elixir.

Few physicians realize that simple elixir used as a vehicle in prescriptions intended for children contains a considerable proportion of alcohol. This means that in a teaspoonful a child, often less than a year old, gets a quarter of a teaspoonful of alcohol at a dose. To avoid this danger an aromatic water or simple sirup should be used.—Medical Record.

A Parting Shot.

"Professor," said a senior, trying to be pathetic at parting, "I am indebted to you for all I know."

"Pray don't mention such a trifle, was the reply.—Punch Bowl.

Happy.

Old Friend—And have you been happy in your second marriage?

Octogenarian—Yes, ever since I lost my hearing.

Stars and Stripes Scarce.

The records for six years past disclose the astonishing fact that, while 1,130 loaded ships sailed from Glasgow to the United States, every one of them carried a foreign flag.

Thirsty New Yorkers.

Adult male residents of New York city each consume on an average 350 drinks of spirituous and malt liquors in a year.

Bank clerks are expected to handle money just as dry goods clerks handle lace or ribbons, according to a bank president. The president should visit a dentist and have his expecter filled.

A VERY RARE CASE.

Where an Investor Got the Best of Promoters of Bogus Mine.

We were talking about copper stocks and the money that had been made and lost in them, when the man who had been consulting his diary for the last quarter of an hour closed the little book and turned and said:

"Gentlemen, that reminds me of one of my first mining experiences. I had $100,000 left me, and while casting around to go into something I read the prospectus of a silver mine in Montana. After a bit I made up my mind to go out and have a look at the property, and I went. I found a hole in the ground where some one had been taken out, and found half a dozen men who told me that the thing was a swindle. It certainly looked like one, but I am a man who has a horror of doing anyone an injustice. I waited to talk with two brothers who owned the mine before condemning it."

"And they said it was all right, of course?" was queried.

"Yes, they did."

"And what did they ask for it?"

"Only $50,000. They wouldn't have asked that much only they were both butchers, and they wanted to go back east and start a big retail shop with Persian rugs on the floor and mirrors all along the walls. I couldn't help but sympathize with their scheme."

"And what did you do?"

"Well, I am a tender-hearted, sympathizing man, and after a few talks with them, I bought the mine for $50,000, and saw them depart."

"And then you found that they had swindled you?"

"O, no. I found that I had got the best of them. They had lied to me most outrageously, and there wasn't a pound of silver ore in the mine, but I had beaten them."

"But we fail to see how," said three or four men in chorus.

"Why, they only got $50,000 of me to open a retail butcher shop with rugs and mirrors. Suppose they had wanted to open a wholesale shop, with rare old paintings on the walls and landscapes on the ceiling, and I had paid them $100,000."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

SAILORS POOR RIFLE SHOTS.

Little Opportunities Given for Small Arm Practice.

That the men of the United States navy have but little proficiency in small-arm practice is unfortunately a fact. The official records of navy small-arm practice in no way approach the splendid records of heavy-gun practice, and it is plain that the men have very little knowledge of the use of the rifle. Lieut. Harris Laning, U. S. N., who so ably captained the navy rifle team last season, in an official report of the lack of instruction in small-arm practice, says:

"The first thing that impressed itself on me was the fact that although the navy has taken a high stand in great gun practice, its small-arm practice is lamentably poor. It is not to be expected, nor is it desirable to develop small-arm practice to the extent we do great-gun practice, but every man in the fighting force should be given enough training with the rifle to make him at least effective with a rifle in case of an emergency. That men who are considered fair shots on board ship are not so trained was apparent in the men sent for trial for the rifle team. Many did not know how to set the sight either for elevation or for wind. Some did not know how to align the sights, and of the new men scarcely any knew how to properly clean a rifle.

"One man given an excellent rifle and having the sights correctly set was able to hit the target but once in ten shots at 200 yards. Another fired for three days at 200 yards before he made 34 out of a possible 50. And yet these two men were sent from the U. S. S. Pennsylvania to try for places on the team! There were no other cases as bad as these, but there were other men sent out nearly as bad. Considerable time at Guantanamo is devoted to baseball, boat races, etc. If the opportunity were given for an equal amount of team rifle shooting it would rank with these as a sport. This was demonstrated at the Naval academy this year, where the voluntary candidates for the rifle team outnumbered those for any other sport."—Army and Navy Journal.

ECZEMA CAN BE CURED

Eczema is the most stubborn form of skin disease, but a permanent cure can be accomplished through our Internal and External Treatment.

EXTERNAL TREATMENT—Wonderful Dream Salve used according to directions kills the disease germ, softens the dry, scabby conditions, absorbs the watery contents of the cuticle elevations, heals the base of the skin, restoring the diseased surface to a healthy, normal condition and appearance.

INTERNAL TREATMENT—W. D. S. Pills keep the bowels active and doing their work of cleansing the system, purifying the blood, and improving the general health.

Detroit, Mich., Oct. 27, 1905.

Gentlemen:

I have been troubled with eczema for fourteen years, tried hundreds of salves, lotions, ointments, mineral baths and x-ray treatments. I had just expended $30.00 with a skin specialist without success, but now I am glad to try your treatment. I followed directions faithfully and in less than four weeks the spot had entirely disappeared.

Yours truly,

JOHN T. KEALEY,

[3rd floor, Stevens Bldg.]

A combination Internal and External Treatment which is guaranteed to cure Eczema or money refunded. 10c, 25c and $1.00. Guaranteed under the "Food and Drugs act."

Write for sample and Free book containing 300 dreams and their meaning.

THE WONDERFUL DREAM SALVE CO., DETROIT, MICH. 1

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See my....

New lines of

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Good Goods at Reasonable Prices.

Get a Nice Mantel Clock

New line just received.

I have the Alarm Clocks to get you up. Come and see.

H. W. Baxter

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Established 15 Years

PATTERSON & PATTERSON

Attorneys for Mortgagee, Pontiac, Mich.

MORTGAGE SALE.

Default having been made for more than thirty days in the conditions of a mortgage made by John E. Brondige and Harriet Brondige, his wife, and George F. Brondige, all of the City of Pontiac, Oakland county, Michigan, to the Oakland County Savings Bank, of Pontiac Michigan, dated the 5th day of June, 1903, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Oakland on the 10th day of June, 1903, in Liber 161 of Mortgages, on pages 431 and 432, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at this date the sum of eleven hundred and sixty-nine and 17-100 dollars ($1,169.17) of principal and interest, and an attorney fee of twenty-five dollars, provided by law and in said mortgage, and no suit or proceeding at law having been instituted to recover the moneys secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof, now therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such cases made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of said premises therein described, or so much thereof as will be necessary to satisfy said amount due and interest and costs of sale, together with said attorney fee, at public auction to the highest bidder, at the easterly entrance of the Court House in the City of Pontiac (that being the building wherein is held the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland) on the 30th Day of July, 1907, at one o'clock in the afternoon of said day. The premises to be sold are described in said mortgage substantially as follows: The undivided one-half of the west half of the southeast quarter and the west twelve (12) acres of the east half of the southeast quarter of section five (5); also the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section eight (8), all in town four (4) north, 8 range eight (8) east, Michigan, containing one hundred and thirty-two acres more or less, being situated in the Township of Springfield, Oakland county Michigan.—Dated May 2, 1907.

OAKLAND COUNTY SAVINGS BANK,
Pontiac, Mich., Mortgagee.

PATTERSON & PATTERSON, Attorneys for Mortgagee, Pontiac, Mich. 3my-26jul

HOLLISTER'S Rocky Mountain Tea Nuggets

A Busy Medicine for Busy People.

Brings Golden Health and Renewed Vigor.

A specific for Constipation, Indigestion, Liver and Kidney troubles, Pimples, Eczema, Impure Blood, Bad Breath, Sluggish Bowels, Headache and Backache. Its Rocky Mountain Tea in tablet form, 35 cents a box. Genuine made by HOLLISTER DRUG COMPANY, Madison, Wis.

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It was this fact that first correctly led Dr. Shoop to the creation of that now very popular stomach Remedy—Dr. Shoop's Restorative. Going direct to the stomach nerves, alone brought that success and favor to Dr. Shoop and his Restorative. Without that original and highly vital principle, no such lasting accomplishments were ever to be had.

For stomach distress, bloating, biliousness, bad breath and sallow complexion, try Dr. Shoop's Restorative—Tablets or Liquid—as you like. Sold at best what it can and will do. We sell and cheerfully recommend

Dr. Shoop's Restorative

CHARLES J. SHAIN.

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE.

In the matter of the Estate of William I. McClelland, deceased. The undersigned having been appointed by the Honorable Joseph S. Stockwell, Judge of Probate in and for the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, Commissioners to receive, examine and adjust all claims against said Estate, and four months from the 16th day of May, A. D. 1907, have been allowed by said Judge of Probate to all persons holding claims against said Estate, in which to present them to us for examination and adjustment, notice is hereby given that we will meet on the 16th day of July, 1907, and on the 16th day of September, 1907, at 10 o'clock a. m. of each day, at the Exchange Bank, in the Village of Birmingham, in said county, for the purpose of receiving and adjusting said claims.

JOHN W. SHAIN,
GEORGE E. DAINES,
Commissioners.

24my-21jun

Quick Bordeaux

Best Fungicide for Fruit Trees. 5 lbs. 50c; 10 lbs. 90c. Sufficient for 25 gallons of water.

RAPE DWARF ESSEX, 10c lb.; $7 per 100 lbs.

BELGIAN ENSILAGE CORN, $1 per bu.

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Birmingham, Mich.

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ALL STOVE TROUBLES

6-5-4 SELF SHINING STOVE POLISH

Because it shines itself and saves work. It dissolves rust as water does salt. One application wears for months. It is grease proof, water proof, rust proof And will not crack, chip or rub off.

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50c. and $1.00 Bottles.

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for children—safe, sure. No opiates

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION—General.

State of Michigan, the Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate office, in the City of Pontiac, in said county, on the 14th day of May, A. D. 1907. Present, Hon. Joseph S. Stockwell, Judge of Probate. In the matter of the Estate of

CLARK M. HARRIS, Deceased.

J. Allen Bigelow, administrator of said Estate, having filed in said Court a petition praying for the examination and allowance of his final account and settlement of the Estate,

It is ordered that the 10th day of June, A. D. 1907, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition. It is further ordered that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

JOSEPH S. STOCKWELL,
(A true copy.) Judge of Probate.
ROSS STOCKWELL, Probate Clerk. 17my-7jun

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE.

In the matter of the estate of Mary J. McAuley deceased. The undersigned having been appointed by the Honorable Joseph S. Stockwell, Judge of Probate in and for the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, Commissioners to receive, examine and adjust all claims against said estate, and four months from the 27th day of April, A. D. 1907, having been allowed by said Judge of Probate to all persons holding claims against said estate, in which to present them to us for examination and adjustment, notice is hereby given that we will meet on the 27th day of June, 1907, and on the 27th day of August, 1907, at 10 o'clock a. m. of each day, at the Exchange Bank, in the Village of Birmingham, in said county, for the purpose of receiving and adjusting said claims.

JAMES E. MILLER,
RICHARD ERWIN,
Commissioners.

3-5my

PATTERSON & PATTERSON, Attorneys for Executor, Pontiac, Mich.