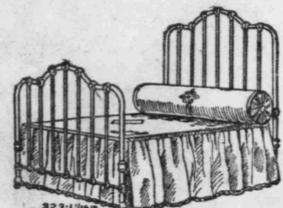
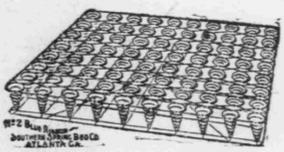
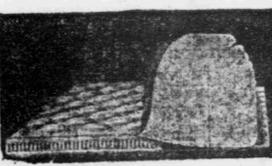
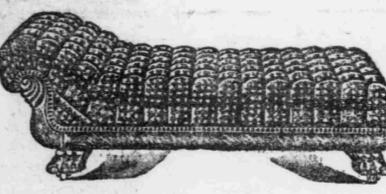




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 <p>\$1.00 a week buys this Bed at \$9—white, blue and Vernis Martin.</p>	 <p>\$1.00 a week for a 5-year guaranteed Spring. \$5.00</p>	 <p>\$1.00 a week gets this Victor 50-lb. Felt Mattress, \$12.50.</p>
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 <p>\$1.00 a week for solid oak 6-foot Extension Table, five 5-inch legs, \$12.50.</p>	 <p>\$1.00 a week for this beautiful Couch, Fabricoid leather—\$24.00</p>	 <p>\$1.00 a week for this solid oak non-dividing Pedestal 6-foot Table, \$24.00.</p>
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Rhodes-Futch-Collins FURNITURE COMPANY

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COMPLETE HOUSEFURNISHERS

"THE QUALITY OF MERCY"

By BONNIE BURNHAM

There was a tragedy in our midst the other night—a tragedy of the hopeless, fearful kind which sets strong men to thinking, occasionally, while white-faced women, in the security of homes, ponder the thing as they righteously should, and gather the protecting forms of little children about them in the dread of they know not what!

Death stalks in strange and forbidden places—goes willingly, relentlessly, unflinching, it is said. This time he was sought—there was the short, terrible struggle of one of God's unfortunate women, who, in the last rash moments of a wasted life, had hurled her soul into the abyss of doubt and conjecture which all shall face sooner or later—a hope less suicide!

A few coarse jokes from the pals she knew—the pitifully few who dared or cared to stand at the bier to mourn—and a woman's soul, sold long ago, went out into the darkness! An unsavory subject? Perhaps! But the passing of one, even as these,

has its mission, indeed—a mission to warn, to protect, and to demand its share of pity!

"The quality of mercy is not strained—
"It droppeth like the gentle dew from Heaven,
Upon the earth below!"

sang the Bard of Avon many, many years ago, when the same warped condition of human nature yet existed, and when the same old world-worn sins were being sinned the while!

Don't you ever think of things like that?

If you don't, then why don't you? A Few of the Causes Why.

First and foremost, this isn't an attempt in the leastwise to break in to one of the great sociological problems of the age—because almost any humble student either of sociology or of the grand old book of Human Nature knows it's a thing that must work out by itself, if, indeed, it was ever meant to work out at all!

But there's one straight-from-the-shoulder truth in the whole miserable proposition, and that's this: When there are more really broad-minded students of this thing human nature—people who understand how and when and why, and are generous with it all, there'll be any amount of the most unfortunate conditions now governing affairs to be eliminated.

Some Christian men and some Christian women sometimes have a way of appointing themselves the custodians of other people's lives in the queerest sort of way. They surround themselves with the narrowest kind of prejudices and suspicions—they look upon the average unprotected woman as questionable, indeed, until she's proven otherwise, and if she's helpless and alone and down in her luck—if some sterling, understanding man of God's own vintage doesn't give her a job and a chance, she's going down, down, down, to the accompaniment of hisses and exclamations, perhaps, from even among her own sex!

Are YOU a woman, and have YOU

ripped and frayed and slashed the character of some other woman into ribbons?

And has she, poor creature, dropped her head in her utter helplessness and shame, and slipped even in to the degradation which you, if only by your powerful force of suggestion have helped her?

Then how much better are you than she?

And which of you two are the worse?

I tell you, this thing of continually dragging each other down is a thing that Don't Go Down with the honest man or woman, and its results are



so fearfully, fearfully far-reaching, too!

If your poor, little, quivering, gossip-seared victim be innocent—how long will she stand and be strong against the terrible odds against her?

And if she be guilty, it's none of your particular business, is it?

And your poor, overworked mouth does need a rest now and then!

Listen to Kipling:

"If she has spoken a word, remember thy lips are sealed,
And the Brand of the Dog is upon him, by whom is the secret revealed!
If she has written a letter, delay not an instant but burn it,
Tear it to pieces, oh Fool, and the winds to her mate shall return it!
If there be trouble to Herward, and a lie of the blackest can clear,
Lie while thy lips can move, or a man is alive to hear!"

Strong? Rather—but the sentiment is there!

Kipling knew that innocent, fool women do compromising things, with their various temperaments, without a thought of harm, perhaps, but just harmful and just extreme enough, perhaps, to drag them deep down into the mire of gossip and even beyond!

The Average Woman.

The average woman isn't really so bad at heart!

But she possibly needs watching. She isn't generally speaking, nearly as well balanced as man, with her passion for flattery, attention—baubles, self-adornment and so on.

If she were, she wouldn't be wearing great, terrible headgear dubbed "style"—and she wouldn't array herself like a Hottentot queen with dangling rows of false, false curls, bobbing and nodding in stately precision.

But she does!

A woman will do the most irregular, fool-hardy things—for she's impulsive, generally; then the world thinks things and the tongues wag on and on!

Being an extremist (all women are extremists you see!) it's a ten-to-one shot that she goes to one extreme or the other—it depends on just how weak or just how strong she'll be!

Oh—it takes a mighty wise sort of man to understand the glittering, blinding glamor of a woman's temperament, and some—and so few of them do!

The Very First Stages.

You'll see, now, probably the point that I've been making. It's the first stages in the downward path of these unfortunate women in which you and I and all of us may figure occasionally, and to our lasting regret, if we but have hearts and are thoughtful!

Knowing what we do of conditions as they exist, we ought to be very, very careful of scattering snap judgments of people broad cast, for occasionally there's a mighty well-meaning, foolish, innocent little thing that's going to be dragged away down below where she doesn't belong!

There isn't one of us, really, who doesn't need human help and human encouragement now and then, and, knowing all this, how ready we ought to be to keep these mouths of ours snapped tight on the shady side of the things we somehow know, and smooth it all out with a good resolve and with sympathy!

This is God's work—our work—and its results, even as the promises made me that 1800 years ago, will indeed be "Beyond the price of Rubies!"

The mis-step of a woman? It means so fearfully, fearfully much—a life time step of the natural extremist—a woman the world over!

It was Ella Wheeler Wilcox who said:

"When woman drifts from good to bad,
To make her final fall complete,
She plants her soul beneath her feet,
Men's dual selves seem separate;
He leaves his soul outside Sin's gate,
And finds it waiting when he tires,
Of Folly's pleasures and desires,
But woman, far more complicate,
Can take no chances with her fate;
A subtle creature, finely spun,
Her body and her soul are one!"

A BROKEN BACK.

That pain in your back caused by lumbago, stiff muscles or a strain is an easy thing to get rid of. Ballard's Snow Liniment cures rheumatism, lumbago, sore and stiff muscles, strains, sprains, cuts, burns, bruises, scalds and all aches and pains. You need a bottle in your house.

Sold by W. A. D'Alemberte, druggist and apothecary, 121 South Palafox Street.

Cornered.

Five young men went into a shop recently to buy a hat each.

Seeing that they were in a joking mood, the shopman said, "Are you married?"

They each said, "Yes."

"Then I'll give a hat to the one who can truthfully say he has not kissed any other woman but his own wife since he was married."

"Hand over that hat," said one of the party. "I've won it."

"When were you married?"

"Yesterday," was the reply, and the hat was handed over.

One of the others was laughing heartily while telling his wife of the joke, but suddenly pulled up when she said:

"I say, John, how was it you didn't bring one home?"—London Bystander.

A Courteous Reply.

A young Scottish recruit had been placed on guard for the night outside of the colonel's tent. In the morning the colonel stuck his head out.

"Who are you?" he demanded.

The young man turned and affably replied: "Fine, hoo's yersel?"—Everybody's Magazine.

MUCH SOUTH'S LAND LYING IDLE

LESS THAN ONE-FOURTH IS NOW BEING TILLED—SOME STARTLING FIGURES WILL BE CONSIDERED AT SOUTHERN COMMERCIAL CONGRESS AT WASHINGTON DECEMBER 6TH AND 7TH.

Washington, Nov. 6.—In view of the present and increasing depression in the rural and Lancashire districts of the British Isles, conditions which have been investigated by a royal commission and reported upon with genuine alarm, a paper will be read and discussed at the Southern Commercial Congress, December 6 and 7, on "Opportunity for Southern Propaganda in the British Isles." The paper will be prepared by Thomas L. Field, of London, a Virginian by birth, resident in England in connection with varied shipping interests.

Additional subjects to be considered during the congress: "Neglected Agricultural Opportunities in the South" and "Colonization Opportunities in the South," will all have relation to the one great subject of attracting to the South elements of population that will strengthen rather than tear down the civilization of which the South is justly proud.

Safe Working Plan.

The committee on arrangements, at the headquarters of the congress in Washington, is already in receipt of letters from owners of large plantations and real estate men relative to land that could be grouped for colonization purposes, and it is hoped that a safe working plan will be evolved from the proceedings of the congress.

Attendance on the Southern Commercial Congress is open to all, its expenses being met by the commercial organizations of the South, acting co-operatively.

The South's Empty Acres.

State.	Total Acreage.	Improved.
Alabama	32,818,560	8,654,931
Arkansas	33,616,000	6,933,735
Florida	35,110,040	1,511,653
Georgia	37,564,000	10,815,644
Kentucky	25,715,840	13,741,958
Louisiana	29,061,760	4,516,352
Maryland	6,562,240	2,516,352
Mississippi	29,671,680	7,594,428
Missouri	43,985,280	22,900,043
North Carolina	31,132,600	8,327,106
Oklahoma	44,424,960	5,511,994
South Carolina	25,916,800	5,775,741
Tennessee	26,679,680	10,246,950
Texas	167,084,720	19,576,076
Virginia	26,767,680	10,094,805
West Virginia	15,374,080	5,498,931

Totals 612,096,920 145,185,999

The above figures show that less than one-quarter of the land area of the South is serving agricultural purposes, yet the distribution of rainfall, the steady temperature, the long growing seasons, the varieties of soil promise pre-eminence to the South in agriculture when science and brawn unite to produce the result. Iowa has 86 per cent of its farm area improved, according to the census of 1900.

IS INTERESTED IN CONVENTION

PRESIDENT OF GEORGETOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SAYS HE WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND WATERWAY MEET AT JACKSONVILLE.

The following letter is self-explanatory: Georgetown, S. C., Oct. 28, '09.

Mr. Eoland J. Henderson, Secretary, Mississippi to Atlantic Inland Waterway Association, Apalachicola, Fla.

Dear Mr. Henderson: I have your valued favors of the 18th and 23rd insts. I wrote you a few days ago enclosing my membership fee to your association. I am very much interested in all waterways improvements, especially so as we have a great system of rivers tributary to this place and the government in the past has been doing some work improving them and also giving us a deeper harbor and entrance to same.

In the past few years there has been a great awakening on the part of the people throughout the entire country in the improvement of our harbors and rivers and the government I believe will in the future provide more liberally for this improvement work. These conventions have the good effect of awakening interest and showing the importance of this economical means of transportation.

Your movement is as I understand it one of the links in the chain in the inland navigation construction that is now being pushed from Maine to Florida and we should all be more or less interested in the project.

I thank you very much for your kind invitation to address your convention but regret that I will not be able to do so as other engagements will prevent my being present with you in Jacksonville on the occasion of the meeting.

However, I know it will be very successful and I would be pleased to receive any printed reports of the meeting after same has adjourned.

Further I remain,
Yours very truly,
W. D. MORGAN,
President Chamber of Commerce.

A Different Matter.

"Were the last batch of soldiers glad to go out to the Philippines?"

"I suppose they were glad; they were in transports."

WOMAN'S NATURE

Is to love children, and no home can be happy without them, yet the ordeal through which the expectant mother must pass usually is so full of suffering and dread that she looks forward to the hour with apprehension. Mother's Friend, by its penetrating and soothing properties, allays nausea, nervousness, unpleasant feelings, and so prepares the system for the ordeal that she passes through the event with but little suffering, as numbers have testified and said, "it is worth its weight in gold."

\$1.00 per bottle of druggists. Book containing valuable information mailed free.

THE BRADFORD REGULATOR CO., Atlanta, Ga.

BABY-EASE

A LIQUID REMEDY FOR CHILDREN'S ILLS

PLEASANT—HARMLESS—EFFECTIVE

RECOMMENDED FOR Constipation, Diarrhoea, Convulsions, Colic, Sour Stomach, etc. It digests worms, allays feverishness and Colds. It aids digestion. It makes Teething easy, promotes cheerfulness and produces natural sleep.

BABY-EASE is so good for children as to be especially recommended for school children whose sedentary habits make a mild laxative often necessary. It cleans the pipes of cholera, castor oil and other drastic purgatives that often seriously damage the system. It is mild and gentle in action.

25c at all drug stores.

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A few damaged shingles at \$1.00 per M.

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A full line of Fresh Meats, Country Produce, Poultry, Eggs, etc. Special attention given to ships' trade. Prompt Delivery. Pensacola, Fla.