

BILL ARP'S LETTER

Bill Writes an Interesting Letter About School Days and Love.

Atlanta Constitution

It is now many weeks since the good St. Valentine told the birds to mate and the girls and boys to go wooing. St. Patrick has been out and shook his shalalah at the snakes, but still gentle spring keeps on flirting and fooling with old man winter and makes him believe she is in love with him. But she isn't. May and December never mate, nor March and November. It is against the order of nature. We old people can look and linger and admire, but that is all. We have sailed down the river and encountered its perils, its reefs and rocks and shoals and quicksands, but, strange to say, we give no warning. Maybe it is because we know that warning will do no good; maybe, because we very loves company; maybe, because it is the order of nature, the fiat of Almighty. Verily the young people would mate and marry and launch their boat and sail down that river if they knew there was a Scylla and Charybdis at every bend and Leviathans and maelstroms and cataraets all the way down. Poor, trusting, suffering woman. What perils, what trials, what afflictions does the maternal instinct bring upon you! Close up by us, while I write, is a beautiful young mother lingering in the grasp of death—dying that her first born child may live. There is nothing more touching, more pitiful, more heroic in nature. There is nothing that a man is called upon to endure that compares with the death of a mother in childbirth. But there is a brighter side—a more charming, comforting picture of life—married life, domestic life—when the good mother is a matron, and looks with pride upon her children and grandchildren as they come and go lovingly before her. What calm serenity hovers over her matronly face. What sweet content, what grateful rest—rest from her labors, her pains, her care and anxiety. Well may she exclaim with Paul, "I have fought a good fight; I have kept the faith; I have finished my course. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness." To every lad and lassie there is a period of life not always thrilling or tragical, but highly emotional and sensational. Of course, I mean the period of love—young love—pr love's young dream, which sometimes runs smooth and sometimes don't. What a luxury it would be to look behind the curtain and see just what love has felt and suffered and enjoyed. Such a kaleidoscope would have a world of eager lookers, for the old are as fascinated with stories of love and courtship as the middle-aged and young. In looking over the daily or weekly paper we may skip the displayed headings of war in Serbia or riots in London or cyclones in Oregon, but any little paragraph that has love in it arrests the eye and demands attention. Children go to school to study books, but by the time they are in their teens they begin to mix a little timid, cautious love with other studies. A sweetheart is a blessed thing for a boy. It straightens him up and washes his face and greases his hair and brushes his teeth and stimulates his ambition to excel and be somebody. Jerusalem! How I did luxuriate and palpitate and concentrate toward the first little school girl I ever loved. She was as pretty as a pink and as sweet as a daisy, and one day at recess, when nobody was looking I caught her on the stairs and kissed her. She was dreadfully frightened, but not mad. No, no, not mad. She ran away with blushes on her cheek, and more than once that evening I saw her glance at me from behind her book and wondering if I would ever be so rash again. And now, Mr. Editor, if a thousand of your patrons peruse these random memories, nine hundred of them can finish up the chapter from their own unwritten books. Who has not loved, who has not stolen a kiss, who has not caught its palpitating thrill and felt like Jacob when he lifted up his voice and wept? Oh, Rachel, beautiful and well favored, no wonder that Jacob watered thy sheep and they lissed thee, for there was no one to molest or make thee afraid. That memorable kiss is now four thousand years old, and has passed into history as classic and pure, but I have had them, and so have you dear reader, just as sweet and soul-stirring, and never said anything about it to anybody. Ours was a mixed school, and every Friday the larger boys and girls had to stand up in line and spell and de- me. My sweetheart stood head most generally, and so I was stimulated to get next to her, and I did, and my left hand slipped found her left, and the both were happy. But time and circumstances separated us, and

Latest Antidotes for Snake Bite.

The Carnegie Institute has granted \$1,000 to the pathological laboratories of the University of Pennsylvania to aid in the investigation of snake poison which is going on there. Upon lines that Doctor S. Weir Mitchell suggested, Doctor Simon Flexner and Doctor Hideo Noguchi have been studying at the university for two years the venom of cobras, rattlesnakes and other poisonous reptiles. Highly interesting are the experiments that in the course of their work these two scientists have made. They believe that it is possible in time to discover for each kind of venom an antidote. The chloroforming of a snake and the extraction of its poison while it lies unconscious are operations frequently performed and interesting to see. The snake is first seized with a lasso about the middle. The lasso is a leather loop at the end of a stick like a broomstick, and the tightening of the loop holds the snake securely. As it is caught, its head is pinned down to a table with a notched stick that is pressed upon its neck. A tube one and one-half inches in diameter, containing a sponge saturated with alcohol is slipped over the snake's head, as a glove is slipped on a finger, and soon the reptile is unconscious. An assistant then seizes it by the neck and slips the edge of a sawcer under its upper jaw in such a manner as to elevate the two fangs. These fangs now lie, as it were, upon the sawcer. The operator takes them, one at a time, between the thumb and forefinger of the right hand, and strips them forward—squeezes them, that is to say, from the base to the tip—and thus all their venom is extracted. This venom, yellow, and of the thickness of molasses, runs out upon the sawcer, and it is gathered in a vial and sealed up. In the experiments with live animals that the university carries on, it is thought best to inject the venom hypodermically rather than to allow the snake itself to do the injecting in the ordinary manner with its fangs, because a snake does not always strike effectively. Sometimes it fails to elevate its fangs sufficiently to inject into its victim more than a drop or two of venom. Sometimes it strikes fiercely and its teeth are actually fastened for a moment in the animal's flesh, but the fangs are doubled backward and not a drop of venom is injected into the wound. Yet, to all appearances, the bite has been a terrible one, and an experimenter, administering to the wounded animal a certain antidote, would decide that this antidote was a marvelously potent one—would hold it to have cured the animal immediately—when, as a matter of fact, there would have been nothing the matter with the animal from the beginning. On small animals the effect of a small dose of venom is almost immediately fatal. A pigeon, for instance, on receiving an injection of three or four drops, walks a few steps, crouches, gasps rolls over on its side, and in one or two minutes, sometimes in less than one minute, is stone dead. On a larger animal, such as a dog, the poison does not act so powerfully. A thirty-nine-pound bull terrier was lowered into a rattlesnake's cage and was bitten on the right leg, near the thigh. The bite was a thorough one. The dog whined a little after it was drawn up, moped awhile, and in fifteen minutes was so weak it had to lie down. At the end of twenty-five minutes it could rise when bidden, though it was growing weaker. At the end of fifty minutes it had lost all power over hind legs. At the end of eighty minutes its breathing was labored. At the end of three hours it was dead. A man—one of the attendants—was bitten by a rattler at the university by accident. In a few minutes he became sick at the stomach and very weak. His face paled, a cold sweat broke out on him, his breathing was hurried and his pulse feeble. This was the first stage of the attack, and in it the wound itself gave no pain. In the second stage—the stage of recovery—the wound was painful. The case of this man was typical. He was pulled through without trouble. The physicians' experiments have shown so far that the antidotes usually recommended for snake bite are almost worthless. They regard alcohol, taken internally, as very valuable—not as an antidote, but as a stimulant. Persons bitten by snakes can take extraordinary quantities of whiskey or brandy—two quarts, say, in an hour—without exhibiting a sign of drunkenness. On animals alcohol has been tried as a stimulant with good effect. In every case it has done much to tide the victim over the stage of prostration that follows the snake's bite. The remedial agent that is of the

New Scholarships for Men Teachers at the South Carolina College.

Class from Appropriation Act of General Assembly, 1908. That one thousand six hundred and forty dollars be appropriated to be used to provide forty-one scholarships in the Normal Department, one from each county, of the value of forty dollars, besides the remission of tuition and maintenance fees to be provided for be selected under regulations to be prescribed by the Board of Trustees. This means \$40 in cash to the student, besides remission of \$40 tuition and of \$18 matriculation term fee. Thus the scholarship student will receive from the College \$5 a month for eight months to assist him in his necessary living expenses. REGULATIONS BY THE BOARD. 1. Applicants shall be young men at least nineteen years of age. The purpose of the General Assembly being to encourage men to obtain preference will be given to those who furnish satisfactory evidence of having already taught for at least one session, and there be no suitable applicants who have taught, the scholarship of that county may be awarded to a young man who only intends to teach. 2. Applications shall be made to the President of the College, at Columbia, before July 1st, upon prescribed blanks furnished by the President or by County Superintendents of Education, upon request. These blanks shall provide for applicant's age, physical condition, general character and ability, educational advantages, financial circumstances, teaching experience, and purpose in taking the special normal course. The information thus submitted will be regarded as a preliminary examination, and those who receive permits to stand the later examination will be credited with the combined results of these two examinations. 3. The later and formal examination shall be upon English Grammar and Composition, History and Geography, Arithmetic and Elementary Algebra. (Algebra, however, is not indispensable.) The Scholarship Committee of the Faculty shall prepare the questions and mark the papers. The County Board of Education of each county is requested to conduct this examination at the same time with the entrance and other scholarship examinations of the South Carolina College. The County Board of Education of each county will receive the questions from the President of the College, and is requested to return the answers to him, at Columbia, forthwith, by mail or express. 4. A standing Committee on Scholarships, appointed from the Board, in conjunction with a standing Committee from the Faculty, shall select the scholarship students for each county upon the results of the examinations reported by the Faculty Committee, and all the other information provided. The proper announcements shall be made through the President. 5. After the first year the incumbent may be reappointed, provided that, in the judgment of the Faculty, his aptness to teach, his progress in study, and his general character indicate that he is a suitable person to fulfill the purpose of the scholarship as provided for by the General Assembly. A Dollar for a Kiss. On the Kronprinz Wilhelm one moonlight night a young man and a girl were discovered making love. The news of this discovery spread among the passengers, and many a joke was cracked. But Senator N. B. Scott, of West Virginia, said in the smoking room: "There is nothing to laugh at here. Innocent love-making is natural in the young. This fact was well brought out by an adventure that happened to a friend of mine years ago in the mountains of West Virginia. "The young man was hunting. He came to a lonely cabin, and, being thirsty, he knocked at the door for a drink. The drink was handed to him by a girl so charming that, with a smile, he said: "Would you be angry if I should offer you a dollar for a kiss?" "No, sir," the girl answered, with a little blush. "So my friend took the kiss, and then he gave the maiden the dollar. She balanced it in her hand a moment. She knitted her pretty brows in perplexity. "What," she asked, "shall I do with all this money?" "Why, anything you please, my dear," said my friend. "Then," she murmured, "I think I'll give it back to you and take another kiss."—Cincinnati Post.

Calamities of 1903.

Not a month has passed since the opening of this year without a record of some disaster in this country in which human lives were lost and large amounts of property destroyed. The list is an unusual one. Nearly a thousand people have been killed in this way since January, this number only including the tragedies of greater moment, not counting those in which the loss was less than a half-dozen lives. The worst record has been made in the present month, for since the first of June nearly seven hundred have been killed, the cloudburst at Hepler, Ore., in which five hundred lives were lost, more than doubling the death roll as it stood before last Sunday. The New York Tribune has compiled the record of the year as follows: January 27—Near Westfield, N. J., an express train dashed by the block signals on the New Jersey Central railroad and crashed into a local train, causing the loss of 23 lives and the injury of a far greater number of persons. February 19—A heavily loaded trolley car in Newark, N. J., got beyond the control of the motorman and ran down a steep incline, coming in collision with the engine of a Delaware, Lackawanna and Western train, causing the death of nine persons, nearly all of them high-school girls. March 20—A collision occurred on Long-Island Sound between the Fall river freighter City of Taunton and the passenger steamer Plymouth off Fishers Island, in which six persons were killed and over 500 were injured. April 9—Tornadoes wrought destruction in Arkansas and Alabama, nine persons being killed in the former State and 12 in the latter. May 30 and the following days floods caused great loss of life and property on the Kansas, Missouri and Des Moines rivers. The loss of life at North Topeka and Manhattan, Kan., was first reported at 150, but proved to be about half this number. Twenty-five lives were lost at Kansas City, Kan., and a dozen at Kansas City, Mo., while in these cities and in Des Moines, as well as in many smaller places, there were thousands of people made homeless. The property losses in Kansas were estimated at \$17,000,000, and the damage to crops at \$5,000,000. June 1—A tornado swept over Gainesville, Ga., causing a loss of about 100 lives and property damage estimated at \$500,000. June 6—A cloudburst at Clifton, S. O., caused a loss of 58 lives and property damage to manufacturing villages of \$3,500,000. June 8—Thirty-five lives were lost by the rush of waters when a levee broke at Granite City, Ill., on the Mississippi River, and great damage was done at other places in the vicinity of St. Louis. Thirty more lives were lost the next day, when an embankment broke, and East St. Louis, Ill., was two-thirds submerged. June 14—The latest of this series of disasters befell Hepper, Oregon, in the shape of a cloudburst, which is estimated caused the loss of the lives of no less than 500 people, with great property damage. To the list of disasters of the year must be added the property losses due to the forest fires which raged early this month in the Adirondacks, White Mountains and the Catskills, caused largely by the excessive drought that prevailed for nearly two months.—Baltimore American.

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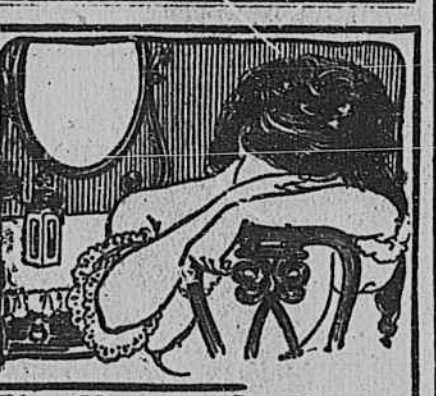
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