### The Merald and News

My Neighbor

[Margaret E. Sangster.]

My neighbor met me on the street. She dropped a word of greeting gay Her look so bright, her cone so sweet I stepped to music all that day.

The cares that tugged at heart and brain,

The work too heavy for my hand, The ceaseless underbeat of pain, The tasks I could not understand,

Grew lighter as I walked along With air and step of liberty, Freed by the sudden lilt of song, That filled the world with cheer for

Yet was this all. A woman wise, Her life enriched by many a year, Had faced me with her brave, true

Passed on, and said, "Good-morning dear!"

ENGAGEMENTS OF MARRIAGE.

They Should be Definite and Brief, a Conditional and Protracted.

[From the New York Sun.]

This letter propounds a question invites a discussion which should be of general interest:

"To the Editor of the Sun Sir What is a father's duty for the happiness and welfare of his daughter under the following conditions: After a four years' courtship a gentleman says that 'his finances are not sufficient for him to marry at pres ent,' but that he will continue his attention and when the future develops his resources so that he can support a wife he will then marry the daughter. Of course, this is understood between them; and it is further agreed that if in the meantime either article is as interesting as it prefers another, the engagement is off, uable. It is illustrated with nin 'and he or she can marry the one of his choice.' Such a fatuous contract is suggestive. The dim future is dark with uncertainty, as applicable to the conditions. Hence the question.

"In a recent editorial you strike the keynote of my question in saying: 'The superiority of the tumultuous youthful passion and impulse debate with Douglas, at the time of of the daughters to the experience and judgment of the parents wrecks the happiness of too many homes. "Paterfamilas."

In the first place, neither a girl herself nor her parents should tolerate a four-years' engagement, except under very extraordinary circumstances. It is injurious to the girl in many ways and serves no de- phical value is the vivid detailed acsirable purpose. The prolonged acquaintance does not tend to the better preparation of the pair for marriage, but rather to produce weariness in one or the other, which decresses the probabilities of eventual marriage as the time is extended. It is an unnatural relation. As a rule, no man ought to "court" a girl until he is in a situation to marry her; he has no right to ask her to become his wife unless he is already in a condition to assume the responsibilities of matrimony. Because a mau has conceived an affection for a woman he should be all the more anxious to save her from tying herself to him in an engagement of indefinite duration. An attempt to bind her by a promise of marriage at some remote time in the future, determinable by himself only, is pure selfishness in

him. A betrothal is simply an engagement preliminary to marriage, and it should not be entered into by a man until he can see his way to its fulfilment at the altar. Hence a betrothal ought to be announced with scarcely es formality than the marriage itself. The Jews who advertise their engagements in the newspapers follow a proper and desirable course in thus making a betrothal a matter of record as a serious and definite obligation: "Getting war, famine and pestilence combined. It engaged" is a grave matter; there is in life few compacts with consequences more far-reaching; no man worthy to be a husband promises marriage without the determination to wed the girl within a reasonable sense Medical Adviser." the names, ad-

time, the sooner the better. The old way for parents to require of a man dawdling about a daughter to "declare his intentions," that is to say, whether he was monopolizing her company and driving off other fellows with the serious intention of marrying her if she would, or simbly to gratify his vanity by securing her preference. If a man expresses his intention to marry a large transfer of the local property of the lungs drives out all impurities and disease germs. Thousands have testified to its marvelous merits. An honest dealer will not try to persuade you to take a worthless to "declare his intentions," that is expresses his intention to marry a not try to persuade you to take a worthless substitute for the sake of a little added profit.

to nothing, for he makes no absolute promise. It is merely a conditional agreement, and it is left to his own pleasure to settle the condi-

of a betrothal. The young man evidently wants to play fast and loose. course of eternity. Such a proposisition is an insult to a girl, even if it is accompanied by the stipulation that she shall have liberty to do the same. It is not a betrothal, an engagement, but simply a travesty of one of the most serious compacts in

Four years' engagement? Four months is long enough. If a man really is enamored of a woman every minute of delay after winning her before he makes her his bride is irkome to him. Why does a man ask a woman to betroth herself to him? Is it not that he wan and intends to marry her? Why, then should she consent unless he is ready to prove his faith by his works?

Beware, girls, of the selfish or craven hearted fellows, who want to of grave importance to society, and entangle you in long engagements simply to keep from you truer and braver and better swains.

McCiure's Magazine For February.

Dr. Nausen discusses in the February McClure's the fature of exploration in the direction of the North Pole. His conclusion is that the Pole "can be reached without too great difficulties," either "by a ship drifting with the ice across the Polar or "by help of dogs and sledges from the Greenland side." He enforces this conclusion with recitals from his own experience in getting erous pictures of people and seems the Far North drawn or photograpic ed from life, some of them by De Nanson himself.

This number of McClure's is par icularly notable in its personal and biographical matter. There is a series of "Great Portraits of Linoln," showing him at the time he entered Congress, at the time when he was in the full heat of his great his first nomination to the Presidency. and at other historic moments in his life. An interesting article by Miss Tarbell gives the history of the sev eral portraits. Mr. Dana's "Reminscences" continue, rnd gives his observations of Rosecrans, Thomas, and Garfield at the time of the battle of Chickamauga. They also give a very interesting view of Barnside at Knoxville. But of especial biogracount of Washington's last illness and death, from the manuscript diary of his trusted private secretary and constant attendant, Tobias Lear. It is remarkable that so interesting a document should never have been published in full before, in a way to make it available to the general readng public.

The best story by Stephen Crane that we have seen, not excepting the famous "Red Badge of Courage," appears in this number of McClure's. Phere is also a charming humorous Irish story by Shan Bullock and an absorbing-instalment of the Anthony Hope novel. But none of these, it novel and thrilling incidents, suroasses Mr. Herbert E. Hamblen's record of his own real experience in Tiring a Locomotive.

THE S. S. McClure Co., New York City.



lessness of the man who courts death through some insidious disease is pitiable, but not admirable. That dread disease, consumption, slays more men and women than are slain by

is an utterly unnecessary slaughter.

Consumption is curable. One of the most eminent specialists in the world, Dr. R. V. Pierce, for thirty years chief consulting physician to the invalids! Hotel and Surgical Institute at Buffalo, N. V., so pronounces it. He declares that thirty years are he discovered a modicine the terrores. dresses, experiences and photographs of innumerable consumptives who have recovered are given. This wonderful medicale biscovery. It is the greatest of all known blood-makers and flesh-builders. It gives edge to he appetite under discretion woman at some indefinite time in the future when it is convenient for him, it is not a betrothal. It amounts bim, it is not a betrothal. It amounts substitute for the sake of a little added profit. When baby is sick the mother needs to own a copy of Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser. It tells the home-treatment of all the ordinary ills of life. For a paper-covered copy send in one-cent stamps to cover cost of mailing only, to the World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y. For cloth binding 31 stamps.

Is a blood disease and only a blood reme-In the peculiar instance referred dy can cure it. So many people make to us there is not even the pretence the mistake of taking remedies which at best are only tonics and cannot possibly reach their trouble. Mr. Asa Smith, Greencastle, Indiana, says: "For years If he is unable to get some girl he I have suffered with Sciatic Rheumaprefers to marry, he will, perhaps, tism, which the best physicians were unmarry this young woman, in the able to relieve. I took many patent this State, on the "legal reserve" medicines but they did not seem to reach my trouble. I gradually grew

worse until I was unable to take my food or handle myself in any way; I was abso-

lutely helpless. Three bottles of S.S.S. relieved me so that I vas soon able to move long I could walk when I had finished one dozen bottles

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was cured completely and am as well as

S.S.S. cures Scrofula, Cancer, Eczema, and any form of blood troubles. If you have a blood disease, take a blood medieine—S.S.S. (guaranteed purely vegeta-table) is exclusively for the blood and is recommended for nothing else. It forces out the poison matter permanently. We will

our valuable books. Address Swift Specific Co., Atlanta,

A False Alarm,

Argonaut.]

When the British fleet was at experience of the company. Hong Korg, a merchant ship was seen coming over the bar with her ensign upside down. The ships in the harbor at once lowered lifeboats and raced to be first to give assistance to the supposed sinking ship. When the first bont got within hailing distance, they saw the skipper

A NEW INSURANCE BILL.

Refers to Companies Doing Business on the Legal Reserve Plan

Columbia, January 27.-Mr. Kibler, of Newberry, today offered an important bill relative to life insurance policies. The bill provides:

That any life insurance company now doing business in this State, or which ray hereafter do business in plan, shall, on the demand of the insured after three full annual premiums have been paid, extend to said insured one of the following options and as many other options as said company may offer:

Pay to said insured in cash, withn sixty days after demand, the full my right arm; before legal reserve computed by the experience table of mortality then in across the room, and use by said company, and interest at 4 per cent, less a surrender charge not to exceed 1 per cent of the amount insured.

Second. Loan to the insured, his policy being deposited with the company as collateral security, at a rate not exceeding 6 per cent, an amount equal to the cash surrender value bereinbefore mentioned.

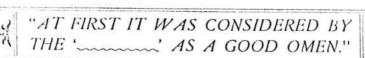
Section 2. That all natural premiums companies now doing business in this State, shall be required to print at the top of the first page of its contract that its premiums are not fixed, but that the future cost BLUE RIDGE RAILROAD, to the insured will depend upon the

Section 3. That any assessment company (not a fraternal order, with the lodge system) now doing business in this State have printed on the first page of its policy, "Assessment contract.

Section 4. That any life insurance company violating any of the previsions of this Act shall be decired e made of the parties of further doing basis

We have to guess what the future that bey Joe again." he oried in dis- and the operchant who never advergust: "I thought it was a regatta." tises has in store.

The Atlanta Weekly Constitution announces a new offer in which everyone may have a chance to supply the missing word in this sentence:



The sentence is taken from a well-known publication. The word is a familiar one, and it may readily suggest itself.

# Contest Began Jan. 1-- Ends Warch 1, 98

TO ENTER THIS CONTEST YOU MUST SUBSCRIBE FOR.



For One Year, Only \$1.00, Sending Your Remittance Direct to Atlanta. AND GET YOUR CHANCE AT THE MISSING WORD FUND

At the end of period covered by this contest The Constitution will pay out to the successful party or parties the full prize amount that has accrued in the contest. The plan is simple and these contests have become so popular and have been conducted with such absolute fairness to all that they have been widely copied after, but none have become equal to The Constitution's great original series.

IN ONE YEAR THE CONSTITUTION HAS PAID OUT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

NEARLY \$6,000 IN CASH in these missing word contests. It sets aside 10 per cent of the subscription tund received from subscribers guessing at the missing word, and this fund is given to the successful guesser or guessers in the contest. The fund is distributed with absolute fairness, and the fact that The Weekly Constitution has MORE THAN 150,000 subscribers and that it puts aside 10 per cent from all guessers' subscriptions for this distribution fund shows that the amount to be divided at each interval is large enough to be worth striving for. It is not a catch-penny or a deceitful proposition, but the plan is open and simple and IS ADMITTED to the untils by the Post Office Departmentas a meritorious contest.

The book from which the sentence is taken is deposited in a safety vault, under seal, and will be und at the close of the contest before a competent committee, which makes the award after an examion of the subscription books.

In one of these contests there was only one successful guesser, who received more than \$1,000; and in addition to this in one year \$5,000 has been d stributed among successful guessers.

Remember that, whether the missing word is supplied or not, it costs nothing to guess, and even though not successful, the guesser gets

THE GREATEST OF ALL WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS FOR ONE YEAR

Keep that in view and send your guess with your subscription for Tie The Constitution guarantees that the amount of the award will

not be less than \$500 in eash, and it may be as much as \$2,000. HE WEEKLY CONSTITUTION IS THE GREATEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPER IN THE WORLD. It is a TWELVE-PAGE, SEVEN-COLUMNS-TO-THE-PAGE NEWSPAPER, containing EIGHTY-FOUR COLUMNS every week. It has no equal as a Weekly Newspaper in America; its news reports cover the world, and its correspondents and agents are to be found in almost every bailiwick of the Southein and Western States.

A MAGAZINE it prints more matter than is ordinarily found in any magazine in the country. AS AN EDUCATOR it is a schoolhouse in itself; a year's reading of The Constitution is a liberal essection.

ITS SPECIAL FEATURES commend it especially to every farm home in America. ITS VARWAND FARMERS' DEPARTMENT, Its Woman's Department and Its Call-dren's Department are all under able direction, and are specially attractive to those to whom

dren's Department are all under able direction, and are specially attractive to those to whom those departments are addressed. The Constitution is Democratic in Politics, and it is a hearty advocate of the principles counciated in the National Platform of the Party.

### THE FOLLOWING ARE THE CONDITIONS OF THE CONTEST

Ten Per Cent of the Guessers' Subscriptions goes to the Fund to be divided. In other words if this Subscription Fund amounts to \$20,000 for this period then the fund to go to the would be \$2,000. . . . . . . . . . . . . .

THE CONSTITUTION PUTS 10 PER CENT of the am receives for subscriptions from particementing the Missing Word Consistent test into a fund for distribution among those who name correctly tomissing word. If only one contestant gets the right word, he or she will be given the entire fund, if more than one supplies the missing word, the same will be proportionately divided among the successful guessers.

guessers,

'FILE CONDUTION PRECEDENT FOR SENDING A GUESS
at the Missing Word, is that each and every guess first be account
pauled by a year's subscription to The Weekly Constitution. If sear
through the paper publishing this advertisement in acceptance of our
clubbing offer, the guess at the missing word will be forwarded. The
guess must be sent with the subscription. Should one person sent
more than one answer, he or she will be enduled to a surre of the tory
for each correct answer. There will be no capital prize—everyone
will get a first prize. Persons may guess as many times as they send
subscriptions.

IN MAKING YOUR ANSWER you need not write the sentence out in full-just say the Mac

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Every mother feels an indescribable dread of the pain and danger attendant upon the most critical period of her life. Becoming a mother should be a source of joy to all, but the

suffering and danger of the ordeal make its anticipation one of misery.

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is the remedy which relieves women of the great pain and suffering incident to maternity; this hour which is dreaded as woman's severest trial is not only made painless, but all the danger is removed by its use. Those who use this remedy are no longer despondent or gloom,; nervousness nausea and other distressing con- Ly. Danville ditions are avoided, the system is made ready for the coming event, and the serious accidents so common to the critical hour are obviated by the use of Mother's Friend. It is a-blessing to woman.

\$1.00 PER BOTTLE at all Drug Stores, or sent by mail on receipt of price. BOOKS Containing invaluable information of interest to all women, will be sent to any address, upon application, by The READFIELD REGULATOR CO., Atlanta, Ga.

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## SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

Central Time Between Columbia and Jacksonville. Eastern Time Between Co-EFFECTIVE JANUARY 17, 1893.

Northbound,		No. 36 Daily.	
Lv. J'ville, F.C.&P.Ry Savannah Ar. Columbia	8 15 a 12 20 p 4 15 p	12 20 a	
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SOUTHERN RAILWAY.



JU Y 4, 1897. STATIONS. 7 10 a m Lv. Columbia Ar. Anderson Lv. Anderson .. 11 05 a m Lv. Abbeville Lv. Hodges... 11 45 a m

" Ninety-Six.
" Newberry. Ar. Charleston ...... 8 00 p m Daily Daily No. 9 No.13 STATIONS. 5 30p 7 10a Lv... Charleston. .. Ar | 8 00p 11 0.a 5 35p 7 10a Lv. Charleston. Ar 8 80p 11 0.a 8 30a 11 35a \* Columbia. \* 8 35p 9 38p 9 07a 12 15p \* Alsron. \* 2 45p 8 55a 10 04a 1 25p \* Santuc. \* 1 25p 7 48p 10 20a 2 202p \* Unton. \* 1 05p 7 30p 10 35a 2 23p \* Jonesvilla \* 12 25p 6 58p 10 54a 2 37p \* Pacolet. \* 12 14p 6 47p 11 25a 3 10p Ar. Spartanburg. Lv. 11 45a 6 25p 11 45a 3 33p Lv. Spartanburg. Lv. 11 45a 6 65p 2 45p 7 05p Ar. Asheville. Lv. 8 20a 3 05p

"P," p, m. "A," u m.
Trains 9 and 10 carry elegant Pullman sleeping cars between Columbia and Ashoville, anroute daily between Jacksonville and Choin act." anroute daily between Jacksonville and Cincinnati.
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COMO M. C. ALL CARC	eot Feb. 7th, 1897.	ğ
SOUTHBURND		4
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" Greenwood " .		1
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Ar Columbia, C. N & L. R. R. Art bailotte, via S. A. L .....\*10 25 pm \*8 30 Ly Mouroe, via S.-A. L....... 49 40 pm 6 05 44 Hamlet, 4 8 15 4 Ar Wilmington t 5 80 am \*12 80 pm 12 14 " 9 2 am
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lo da m Leave Ash ville ... 4 00 p m Augus a..... .... 5 06 p m 11 10 a m ave Calhoan Falls..... 4 44 p m Ar, ive Raleigh Petersburg . Richmo, d . Leave Augusta... Aritye A jendale Fairfax.... Ye #8see Beaufort... .. 9 30 nm ... 10 to am 6 50 am 6 50 am 8 15 am 8 25 pm 9 25 pm 10 3; am 10 47 am 12 55 pm Charleston. .. 1 52 pm ... 3 05 pm Yemassee ... Fairfax .... Arrive August t. Leave Greenwood

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### Florida Central & Peninsular Time Table in Effect Jan 1.

No. 37 No. 35, ...125 pm 1 47am Lv. Colu bia....
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NORTHBOUND.

Ar Newberry.

To this arrive and depart in 12 24pin arrive and depart in 12 24pin Binnian Street Station. Nos. 3. 29 umbla at 14 ultiman sheeping cars between New York and 36 arry dacksonville; a so between New York and 41 ultiman from 8 evy 15. Connecting with a 16 until 18 until

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