

The Hope Halls of Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth, And Lady Henry Somerset's Farm For the Blacklisted



PUBLIC attention has of late been drawn to the noble work of two female philanthropists, one in the United States and the other in England. Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth and Lady Henry Somerset. These two women, the first the daughter of a clergyman and a leader in the Volunteers of America, and the other belonging to Britain's titled aristocracy, are giving their best efforts for the uplifting of suffering humanity.

It was shortly after the Ballington Booths seceded from the Salvation army and organized their Volunteers of America in 1896 that Mrs. Booth became interested in prison work and instituted her great scheme of reform which she is carrying out today and which has been extended to include prisoners in all ex-convicts of nearly all the large prisons in the country. It is said that he had her attention called to the forlorn condition of these unfortunate men the first time on the occasion of addressing the inmates of San Quentin prison, California. Filled as she was with a desire to lead them into a better mode of life than that they had pursued both in and out of prison, Mrs. Booth spoke so touchingly that many of her hearers were moved to tears, and more than 200 rose at her request in token that they desired to reform. Firmly assured that these apparently hardened criminals, at least many of them, were receptive of reform, she appealed to them as individuals, and finally, convinced that a great work lay in this direction, the "little mother," as the prisoners now call her, resolved to enlist the co-operation of the Volunteers and other religious people and to devote to it all the time and money possible.

Her next appeal was addressed to the inmates of Sing Sing prison in New York, and there also she succeeded in stirring in the breasts of convicts re-



THE FARM FOR THE BLACKLISTED.

garded as incorrigible a desire for reformation. She inaugurated the Volunteer Prison league next as an association for assisting discharged prisoners to obtain a living, it having been the result of her observation that immediately after their discharge from prison the ex-convicts were in greatest peril from their old associates and modes of life and most likely to get back into the ruts of crime. No one is willing to employ a man whose last home was a prison, and Mrs. Booth found that most

of those who became habitual criminals did so from sheer force of circumstances. The world is against them, and there are no avenues of escape from the penalties attached to the crimes they have committed.

Hence she conceived the Volunteer Prison league, organized for the express purpose of assisting those who cannot assist themselves, for extending a helping hand to fallen men and women. "Look Up and Hope" is the motto on the blue and white badge which



HOPE HALL.

the 12,000 members of this league are wearing today, and it is no meaningless inscription, as thousands have already found, who but for Mrs. Booth and her help might now be back again in misery and crime. A way has been provided to a class of criminals hitherto regarded as under a ban and a chance for earning an honest living that otherwise would never have been open to them.

In the furtherance of this great scheme of benevolence Mrs. Booth and her friends have established places of

refuge for ex-convicts where they are received on probation in veritable homes. The first of these Hope halls, as they are termed, was established in New York in the midst of spacious grounds, and there a cheerful home was maintained during the five years' lease of the establishment. The residents and landowners near protested against having a home for criminals in their neighborhood, and Hope hall was removed to Flushing, N. Y., where a fine mansion and ten acres of ground

were secured. Here also the philanthropists met with the same protests from householders and landlords, their four being that these ex-convicts would ply their nefarious practices in the vicinity. But Mrs. Booth and her band of workers persisted in the work, and another Hope hall has been established at Chicago, and altogether about 100 men who were at some time in their lives inmates of prisons are comfortably housed therein and being led in the way that leads to respectability. At least 75 per cent of the 1,400 men who have passed through Hope hall, Mrs. Booth estimates, have done well since they were taken in hand, and but a small proportion of them have returned to their evil ways.

Across the ocean, in England, another woman, Lady Henry Somerset, is carrying on a course of treatment for certain of her countrywomen similar to that which Mrs. Booth is conducting for ex-convicts in the United States. Lady Somerset is devoting her time to reclaiming the vast number of female inmates that her country produces.

England stands, she says, "in the unenviable position of being almost the only nation that has a drunken womanhood," and it is for the reform of these inebriates that she is strenuously working today. She has established what she calls a "farm for the blacklisted," or for the unfortunate whom nobody will employ owing to their drunken habits. Her farm home, similar in its aims and scope to the Hope halls in the United States, consists of a "colony village" at Duxhurst built on the hill slopes of beautiful Surrey, where the air is bracing and the scenery attractive. Here in the country Lady Somerset has erected a row of what she calls the prettiest cottages in the world, with every convenience inside and gardens attached, in which the reclaimed women are encouraged to labor. Open air employment, a quiet, country life and good food are relied upon to effect the greater part of the cure, and the

fact that the women are surrounded by loving care and are stimulated by the example of their fellow inmates, has proved that more than 1,000 cases have been turned away last year, and the colony was opened more than 100 women have been refused admission owing to the lack of accommodations. The cottages at Duxhurst are neat, airy and comfortable, and so that many a once dissolute woman returns to her people when cured. She is trained in housekeeping, making, gardening and floriculture, the flowers and vegetables for the colony being raised on the place. As the case of the ex-convicts of the Hope halls, uprightness of character is encouraged by individual effort, by encouraging self respect and by directing attention to the advantages of an independent country life as opposed to the unhealthy existence in city surroundings. And so these two women, scattered on other continents, are carrying on a work that has already had an effect in changing the character of hundreds of thousands, who would otherwise have sunk into their lives of crime and brutality. All honor, then, to these two women, the one dwelling in a humble American home, and the other in a castle, who have done so much for the helpless and unfortunate.

FREDERICK A. GERR.

A LADY AND HER PETS.

A Parliarian lady has been commended by the police to break up her hen house, consisting of twenty hens, four cocks, thirty pigeons, a goat, four cats, eight dogs, a rabbit and a dozen birds. Her neighbors objected to her kept awake all night by the cackling of the hens and the barking of the dogs and to be roused up at an unearthly hour by the crowing of the cocks.

JUDGE GROSSCUP'S NOVEL PLAN FOR TAMING THE TRUSTS



IT is too soon to pass an opinion as to the efficacy or innocuousness of the antitrust laws recently enacted by congress, but it is not too soon to promulgate theories as to trust restriction, some people seem to think. Some

others have arrived at the settled conclusion that curbing the trusts is about as easy as lassoing a locomotive; either easy to do, but hard to hold on. The latest theory so far put forth is that announced as coming from that eminent lawyer, Judge Peter S. Grosscup, who advocates, it is said, the "peopleizing" of these vast aggregations of capital and rendering them harmless by turning them over to the people. "Peopleize the trusts, and you will render them innocuous," he declared quite recently, "for thereby you deprive them of the very principle that makes them so dangerous to the general run of mankind." "Peopleize" is a word coined, so far as we know, by the talented jurist and up to the present writing cannot be found in any dictionary of the English language, but what is meant is roughly the popularizing of those useful institutions in their very widest sense—that is, they are to be removed from their lofty perches and made to rest among the people.

But will they? That is the question that agitates the commonality. Will they take kindly to any measures that invest them of their exclusiveness and make them minister to the wants of the many when the very essence of their being resides in the fact that they were created by and for the few? Echo alone answers, and the answers "echo" are usually unsatisfactory. A first place, who will "peopleize" the trusts? Various laws have been framed, and many solutions of the problem have been advanced, but hitherto the trusts have flourished after the manner of the historical green bay tree, and

the people en masse have been left out in the cold. It is quite natural that the free and enlightened people of these United States should desire a partnership in the great combinations that are absorbing the country's capital to themselves and clamor for a distribution of the profits. Human nature has been the same ever since the world began, only at this stage of its progress it is more acute and highly trained than when, say, the ark trust was formed by Noah or the first cave man discovered the efficacy of shibbones as weapons and cornered all the visible supply for his own benefit.

It is one thing to want a thing, but quite another to get it, as many have discovered to their sorrow. However, it is patent to all that the trusts are here, and it looks as though they were here to stay. This being admitted, the question before the country is how to make them beneficial to the masses without destroying their usefulness. It is very well to suggest "peopleizing" them, and the sentiment accords with prevailing opinion, but when they are "peopleized" will the wealth per capita of this country be any larger than it is now? That is the real and burning question, and whatever tends to its settlement will be welcomed by a long suffering public.

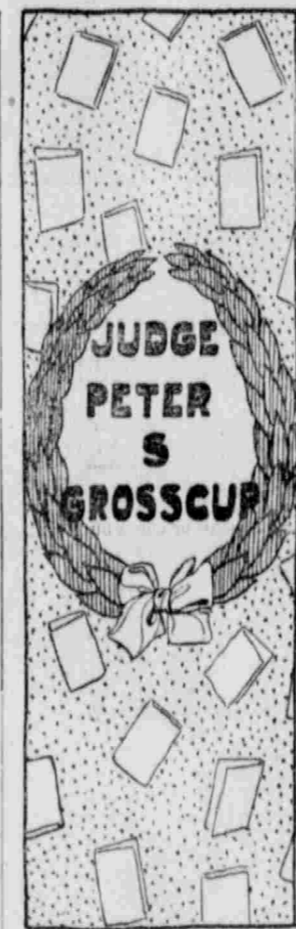
Now, there are at least two definitions of "trust" given in the dictionaries, and if they could be more nearly reconciled the millennium would be within hailing distance before the end of the century. The first and usually accepted definition at present prevailing is "an organization or association of industrial corporations, a majority (at least) of the stock in each of which is transferred to a central committee or board of trustees, who, while issuing to the stockholders certificates showing their interest in and right to dividends, exercise the voting power of the stock in electing boards of directors for the various associated corporations and in other ways direct their policy for the common object of lessening competition, regulating production and lowering its cost and increasing profits."

The second and old fashioned definition is "a confident reliance or practical resting of the mind on the integrity, veracity, justice or other sound principle of another person or upon his friendship or upon his promises as involving these."

"Peopleizing" the trusts, then, would be merely combining all the trusts for the benefit of the world at large and introducing the humanizing influence of pro bono publico. In point of fact, the trusts themselves are composed of individuals; but the real objection to them seems to be that they do not include individuals enough in their schemes. Corporations are combinations of individuals, some wise men have said, and trusts are merely combinations of corporations.

So there you have it in a nutshell. Throw open the trusts to an increasing number of people and eventually include all the voters of the country, and the "trust evil" will abate as rapidly as a rough sea at ebb tide. The chief evil of the trust is that it makes the rich man who is inside richer, while the poor man on the outside pays the bills. Let the poor man in and give him but a small share of the profits, and he will cease to complain. It doesn't take much to satisfy a poor man because his desires have not been expanded by self indulgence. It is the rich men and women alone who are the really unsatisfied ones. In short, if the millionaires and the trust magnates would only apply the Golden Rule in their dealing with their fellow men and do unto them as they would like to be done by instead of "doing" them all the time the trust problem would soon solve itself.

So this is the essence of Judge Grosscup's utopian scheme of "peopleizing" the trusts. The trusts will be "peopleized"—that is, given over to the people—about the time the lion and the lamb lie down together without occupying the respective positions of Jonah and the whale.

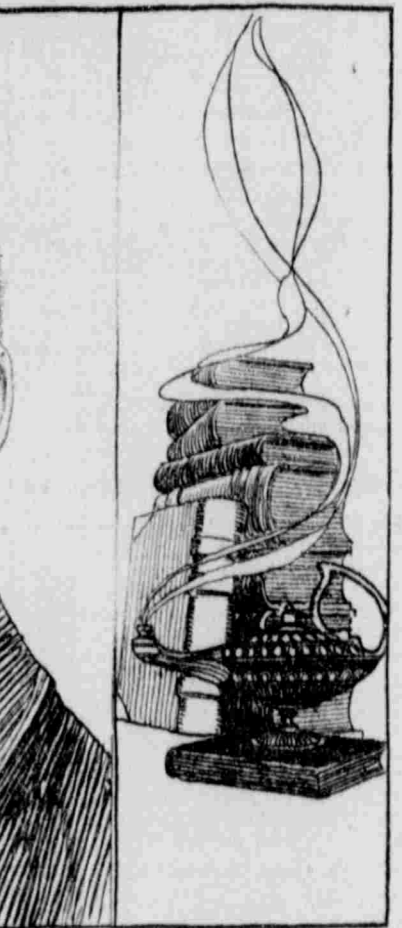


If Judge Grosscup can bring about such a condition of things, he should be honored by being elected perpetual president of this country, for he would have done more toward bringing capital and labor into accord than any other man who ever lived on earth.

There is no doubt that this learned judge has the inclination for reconciling the people and the trusts, now ap-



parently traveling along divergent lines, for his record goes to show it. Born in 1852, he is now in the very prime of life. Educated in the public schools of Ashland and graduated from Wittenberg college, Springfield, O., he began professional life as a lawyer after obtaining a degree at the Boston Law school. Removing to Chicago in 1883, he entered the law firm at the



head of which was Leonard Swett, a former partner of Abraham Lincoln, and built up a reputation second to few in the country. In 1892 he was appointed to the United States district bench by President Harrison and two years later sprang into prominence when, together with Judge W. A. Woods, he issued the injunction against the participants in the Debs strikers of 1894 and in

favor of the government. His charge to the grand jury assembled immediately after gave him a national reputation, which many of his decisions have fully sustained. Since January 1899, he has been judge of the United States circuit court, and one of the notable decisions in his jurisdiction against the "beef trust" in May of last year.

He is a Republican and has invariably supported the government's course in Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines. Judge Grosscup may be expected in his latest scheme, but he has not taken a step in advance of other doctrinaires and in the direction of distrust and justice. His well known ability to grasp a subject in its entirety, and his wide range of information, together with the judicial bias of his learned mind, would seem to preclude the idea that the subject had not been thought out carefully.

ELBERT G. WOODS.

STARTLING PARIS.

A certain French beauty is said to have formed a project for capturing Paris by entering that city in a balloon towed by a motor car. The project, however, interfered, and no more has been heard of the scheme. Nevertheless Mme. Rejane succeeded in creating a very distinct sensation when she recently came spinning down the Champs Elysees behind a pair of magnificent snow white mules. These mules travel as fast as horses and weigh high. They were presented to the great actress from the king of Portugal.

HORSESHOE SOUVENIRS.

There is an old castle at Rutlandshire, England, which contains a museum of gilded horseshoes and every peer of the realm who passes through the town is expected to contribute to it. Lord King Edward and Queen Alexandra have contributed similar relics, tokens of their interest in the place.

Stella Lundelius, Puzzle For the Scientists, And the "Georgia Magnet," One of Her Predecessors



HER latest puzzle for the physicists to ponder over is presented in the person of a charming little girl who, weighing less than seventy pounds, is yet able to increase her apparent weight to such an extent that no person, however strong, can lift her. Her name is Stella Lundelius, and her home is in Port Jervis, N. Y. She is only twelve years old, is fragile in appearance, fair of complexion, with pink cheeks, blue eyes and golden hair, and is embodiment of innocence itself. Ever since she was a babe, or as long as she can remember, she has possessed this power of making herself "heavy" at will; or, rather, at the will of her father, who is always present and apparently controls the mysterious influence during the process of experimentation.

The problem that presents itself for solution in her case is as to the wonderful influence from this frail little body that makes men's strength of no avail and seemingly overcomes the law of gravitation that governs ordinary bodies in a normal state. Does the mysterious force reside in her, or is it exerted through her at the will of her father, who is a hypnotist and devoted believer in mesmerism? The question seems as difficult to answer as another which has agitated the scientific world since natural history became a subject of study—which was first, the egg or the hen? The explanation, when it comes, will probably be found as simple as any ever given, but as yet it hasn't arrived.

Some light may be thrown on the subject by reference to other cases of similar character that have now and then appeared, and the one that excited most interest at the time was that of Miss Annie Abbott, who created a wonderful uproar about a dozen years ago as the "Little Georgia Magnet." This lady was also slight of build and seemingly



THE INFANT PHENOMENON.

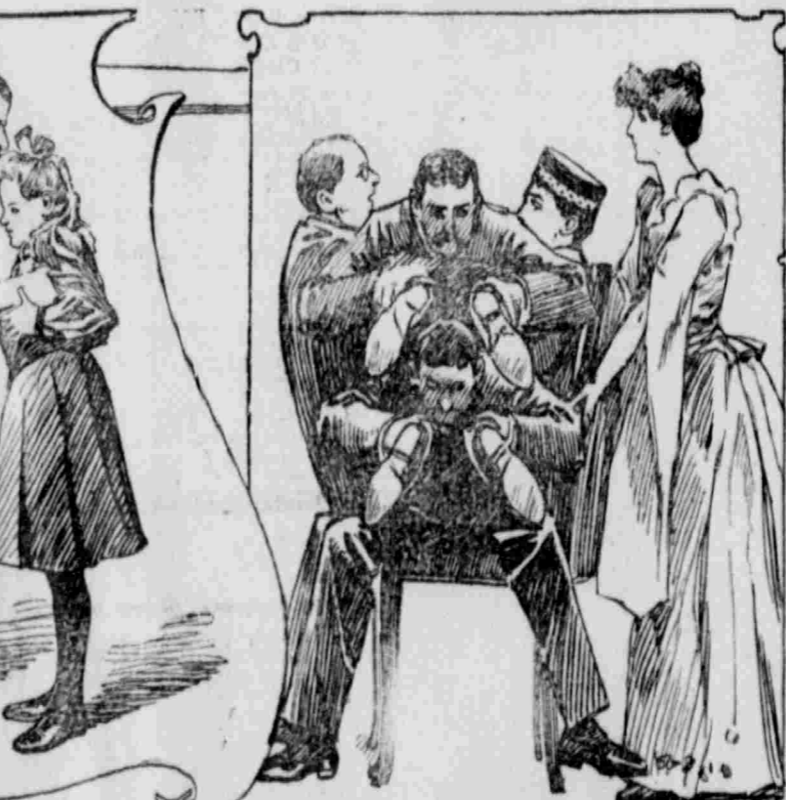
fragile, though more advanced in years than little Stella Lundelius, but the experts said her small face and the manner in which she dressed favored the illusion of fragility, while in fact she was muscular and strong to a wonderful degree. A woman's muscular development, they declared, is not so apparent to a superficial observer as a man's, especially in her arms. And they cited the example of "Victoria," the strong woman, who lifted heavy cannon as though they were feathers, but whose arms were models of symmetry and showed even in action no



STELLA SEEMS TO WEIGH A TON.

abnormal development of the biceps. It is not mere strength, however, that is exerted, as was proved by the experts who examined the "Georgia Magnet," but at the same time they did not satisfactorily determine what it was. That is the reason the appearance of the "infant phenomenon" at this time, twelve years later, excites the same interest as Miss Abbott excited—because of the mystery in which the force is still enveloped.

Miss Abbott was born in Georgia, the youngest in a family of thirteen children, and discovered herself possessed



THE "GEORGIA MAGNET'S" LIFTING FEAT.

of this force when she was seven years of age. Without this force, it was said, she could not lift 100 pounds, but with it she performed wonders. For example, seven men tugged at a billiard cue she held in her open palms, but wholly failed to either move the cue or herself, though at the time she was balanced on one heel. Five men held a chair in what they thought was a firm grip, but at her touch they all went sprawling on the stage. Six heavy men seated themselves on the chair, one atop the other, and she lifted the heap with ease. The biggest man of the committee seated

himself in a rocking chair, which he rocked back and forth easily until the "Magnet" touched it with two fingers, when "it was fixed as firmly as though screwed to the floor." A small boy was made to stand on the stage facing the lady, who, holding both his hands in her own, imparted to him the power she herself possessed to such an extent that two very strong men failed to move him a hair's breadth, though they apparently put forth all their strength.

The foregoing are some of the feats performed by the "Georgia Magnet" several years before the Lundelius child

was born; and while little Stella has not yet gone into the subject so elaborately, having confined her efforts to resisting simple lifting experiments, she doubtless could accomplish as much as her predecessor has done. So far she has confined herself to doing "straight stunts" in ponderosity, without affecting the part necessarily taken by the person on the stage, for as yet she has not appeared in public to any extent.

All the experiments have been conducted in the privacy of her home or before a select assemblage of reporters or scientists, and by special request. In fact, her father, who has trained her to respond to these calls with equanimity, seems averse to publicity and has resisted all attempts thus far made to exhibit his child as a freak. She has been tenderly reared, and as an "altruist," the father says, he has gone to the extreme of indulgence, never having scolded or whipped her in his life. He believes in "mental suggestion" in the training of the child and also entertains a profound belief in his hypnotic powers, and it is doubtless by means of this "suggestion" from him that the child performs her wonderful feats. She has a brother and two sisters, but they do not possess this strange power, though the elder sister is a musician of great ability and also a composer.

"She didn't seem to weigh thirty pounds," said a big six footer who lifted Stella into the air at the request of her father; but at a signal from her parent the child placed the tips of her fingers on the man's neck, and he couldn't budge her an inch from the floor. Others tried it and gave it up one after the other, for it seemed to them as though the girl's body had suddenly "turned to jelly" and slipped through their hands while they tugged and strained until they were red in the face. During it all the little girl's face wore a placid, innocent look, and she seemed to regard the discomfiture of these strong men as exceedingly amusing. But all the time, it was observed, she

never allowed her gaze to wander from the face of her father, who seemed to control her force on and off at will.

The same trick was performed years ago by the "Georgia Magnet," who followed a brazen pugilist of great strength to make the experiment. He recovered her arms with her own, and placed them close to her side, and the pugilist lifted her high into the air. Stalling as she descended, the "Georgia Magnet" bared her arms, and the man strove his utmost, but he could not get her feet from the floor. The same force doubles in the woman, that worked its will in the woman, the latter was "auto suggestive," dependent of the will of another. The force without doubt is magnetic, exerted by means of hypnotism or mesmerism through the child upon the experimenters. But this does not account for the operation of the force. It has been ascribed variously to pressure, to animal magnetism, mental suggestion, to electricity, etc., but still the actual moving principle seems to be the exertion of her will and energy, auto or secondarily suggestive, which exhausts the will and energy of those trying to lift her and so overcomes them of strength.

RALPH N. LEBER.

ROBERTS HIT BACK.

Londoners are laughing over a recent issue in which Lord Roberts is a victim of a great physical proportion who is introduced to Lord Roberts as a small person of the earth and name. "Ah, Lord Roberts, delighted to see you frequently heard of you, but I have never seen you before." "And I have frequently seen you, but I have never seen you before." "And I have frequently seen you, but I have never seen you before."