

## Correspondence.

### Guiteau a Monstrosity.

In the course of a letter not intended for publication, from the Christian minister who furnishes the articles under the head of "Holy Marriage," he says:

I saw in the *World* of Wednesday, July 6th, a statement from some of Guiteau's near kin, sister I think, that his mother had brain fever a little while before he was born. If that was the fact it explains at once. Your attitude concerning him and the man who tried to kill you is eminently honorable to your mind and heart, and is the accurate stand to take. I should say clearly that Guiteau should be shut up where he could not shoot any more Presidents, but that he is not a criminal so much as a monstrosity. The greatest lesson of all to be learned from him is to turn the whole heart, mind, and strength of the American people upon seeing to it that every future child is well born,—a human thoroughbred.

STARKE, Fla., July, 1881.

DR. E. B. FOOTE, *Dear Sir*: I find the date on wrapper of *HEALTH MONTHLY* calls for renewal. I beg to acquaint you that having business to Europe, I must decline at present taking one of the most useful periodicals which I consider well worth the subscription—independent of the premium, and which I may have an opportunity of recommending in my travels, etc.

I will offer for sale in the fall my orange grove of 250 trees now commencing to bear, making very good healthy growth, a few lemons and citrons, together with 200 peach, plum, quince, and grape trees, most of them bearing, upon 46 acres of good pine land, part of it in the corporation of Starke, which I have cropped successfully without fertilizing, in a most healthy locality, having resided here over four years, never had better health on this earthly globe, having traveled round it twice, and spent five years in Australia, New Zealand and other southern countries, together with traveling on the continent of Europe some years, etc.

Should any of your friends desire to live in the "Sunny South," in the beautiful land of fruits and flowers, I will offer them a nice suburban property cheap on cash terms, which will realize an acceptable income in about two years without much trouble. I am, dear sir, yours, most respectfully,

T. G. POYNIXON.

### A Phonetic Letter from Mr. Hamilton.

DR. E. B. FOOTE: In kontinuing my fonetik historiki helth ketchez I will sa, that after coming to Wisconsin from the stat ov New York, thoz ataks ov bilyeuns respektig hwich I rote in my former komunikashun, chandj thar for m sumhwot. Insted ov havin pain in my hed, or hedak, I simpli bekam dizi—had the sam nauhu in my stomak, and the dizines wond kontinn tu inkres untill thuro vomiting woz procast hwen I woud be wel agen. So for the pas nearly forti yerz I hav bin afflikted but veri litt with hedak from such a kanz. In the faul of 1846 I had the "agu and fever," part ov the tym for three months, and hwyl a parokszim woz pasing of, I had a terrib pain in my hed, but it woz veri differint in its karakter and severity from sik hedak, so sever, indeed, that at tymz it semd as if my hed woud almost split open.

I now kum tu the histori and descripshun ov a veri pekulyr kondishun ov bodi and mynd, during a porshun ov my lyf, and in kwyt a markt degre ov intensiti during the later yerz ov my residens in this kuntri. It beginz by a dark, gloom, and deprest stat ov mynd, and at first my thots run bak over of my past lyf olmo: involuntarili and evri thing that I hav ever dun seemz to be a mistak or rong, and my bowels bekum inektiv and reman in a kostiv kondishun for a um tym. I luze ol dezyr or dispozishun tu mak eni effort, mentl or fizikli, konsekwenti hwyl this kondishun lasts, I ryt nothing, not even leterz tu my frendz, unles driven tu it by sum kynd ov necesiti, hwyl at uthor tymz I hylly enioy doing so, I kan not set myself about eni kynd ov biznes or work, onli az I am driven tu it by necesiti, and then I engaj in it in an entyri mekanikal manner, without havin eni interest in the employment. Ambishun and enerji hav forsaken me, and the smolest fizykal efforts appear tu be such grat tasks, that it seemz az if I koud not du them; and my hwol system iz in a stat of relaksashun, so that I just wout to sit down and du nothing, or wonder about without eni aim or purpus in a veri unhapi stat ov mynd. Evri thing in the world around me seemz tu be rong, and I wout tu hav it kum tu an end, so that evri thing ma be stopt, and hwot a relief it iz tu me hwen the da klozez, and the darkness ov nyt kumz on, so that I kan go tu my bed, and for a few hourz be lost in the forgetfulness of sleep, and hwen I awak, az I jenerali du a long tym befor dalyt, how I dred the return ov da, and how much I wish that the nyt woud never end, onli bekoz I must get up and du sumthing hwen it daz, hwyl at other tymz I am a veri erli ryzer. I also hav no dezyr for sosial interkors, and dred tu ge hwar I woud be

seen or notist, and tho I hav bin a relljus man ol my lyf, sins 11 yerz ov aj, yet at such tymz I hav no rellish for devoshunal and relljus eksersyzez, and du not wout tu pra, read the Bybl or go tu relljus meetings, during the kontinuans ov this pukulyr stat. And then how meni tymz I wiesh I had never bin born, or that I had dyd in infanei, or that I koud bestrak out ov egzistens,—totali anyhyated—and how strongli and frekwenti I am tempted, espeshali at the beginning ov this kondishun, tu put myself out ov this lyf with my own handz az hundredz hav dun, that wur in a kondishun no wurs than I waz, and probabl veri similar tu it. But a grat sensitivnes tu pain and a dred ov the konsekweneez hereafter, woz hwot kept me from duling it. The longest that I hav sufered in this kondishun haz bin 18 mupths, during kwich not an hour ov sunehyn in my mynd, hav I bin permitted tu enioy, and thez stats hav okurd at intervalz ov 2 or 3 yerz, and during thar kontinuans lyf iz wun grat blank, ful ov darkness and wo. The last tym, however, it did not last but about 6 months, and that woz 7 yers ago this summer, and I begin tu hav sum hopes that I ma never be afflikted so agen.

J. T. HAMILTON.

### (A PHONETIC LETTER TO DR. FOOTE'S HEALTH MONTHLY.) Nashional Reform.

LET wimen ware the brichez. The ekstream opozishn ov ma's and female dres kanzuz tu much ekskament ov the paslinz and promesez tu bring about a great evil in the form ov an over krowded populashn. Then let the wimen kut short thar long hair and dres nearli lik the men for a few yearz and tharbi tone the men down. "Hwot! hwot! hwot! O horerz! wud you advokate such ekstreamz? preposterus!" O no, not at all; do not kari the thing tu ekstreamz—hwen the men get so toned down that tha wil seriushi neglekt thar dutiz in prokreshn, then put on the hed frizelz, long skirts, tshaks, padz, buselz, and uthor gewgawz and tone them up agen.

W. H. H. GRAHAM.

### Stirpiculture.

BERLIN HEIGHTS, O., August, 1881.

EDITORS AND READERS OF THE *HEALTH MONTHLY*: I have been much interested in reading of the proceedings of the "Institute of Heredity," as published in the July number. I am especially pleased with the letter of Dr. E. B. Foote. Its independence and frankness are commendable. It is my opinion that if the sexual relation for reproduction only is to be the standard rule of the Institute, that it will be of small benefit to society at large. I regard it as a dangerous criterion by which to judge or work. From it will inevitably spring, caste, and prejudice, with all that follows. We have too much of this already. I know of what I speak. I have seen its working in private circles and marked its damaging effects. As may be supposed I do not accept the doctrine "for reproduction only." The reasons to me are very clear and simple as opposed to such doctrine. I am strongly in favor of all proper preventive means. I am well satisfied that there is much damage, physical and moral, constantly occurring to individuals and society, both in and out of marriage, for want of such knowledge or means. I regard it as a mark of discredit to our statutes that such proper and harmless means are legally opposed. I wonder how long before society and the law will learn the plain fact that "oft the fear of ill to ill betrays." I am fully aware of the sexual vice and debauchery that is everywhere rampant in our land. I deplore the misery which it brings, but the way out of this is not by opposing proper preventive means. We thinking men and women should cultivate individual independence and frankness, then rest assured the truth will come.

ANNA PERKINS.

GRANT CITY, Iowa, August 9, 1881.

I am more interested in the July and August numbers of the *HEALTH MONTHLY* than I was in the June number. I shall watch the doings of the Institute of Heredity with great interest. I shall look for the continuance of "Holy Marriage" with some impatience. It is too soon to guess at the conclusion to which the writer will arrive, but he starts out with some premises that accord with my own views. I hope Rita Belle will pursue the train of thought she has opened up a little farther. We need "line upon line and precept upon precept. Vague hints at the reforms to be instituted are not enough, we need specific directions. It is a hopeful sign that men and women are beginning to discuss these things publicly.

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A LADY writing us from the Lone Star State of Texas, felicitates herself upon the possession of *Plain Home Talk*. She says she rises at six o'clock, gets breakfast, cleans up the house, and then devotes an hour or two to her Bible, *Plain Home Talk*, and other good books. She adds, "I have perused it (*Plain Home Talk*) daily since my husband handed it to me about two weeks ago, and I think it a perfect gem."