

A ONE-SIDED CONTRACT

There are generally two parties to a contract. The editor of the New York Tribune lately received the following letter from a so-called victim of misplaced confidence, and who is doubtless only one of a vast multitude:

Sir: As contracts are usually binding after they have become distasteful and unjust? Being the victim of a contract, I ask for information. Ten years ago I entered into the following contract with a man whom I will name Mr. A.— In return for various services on my part, which may be summed up as duties of a general manager of an estate, real and personal, I was to receive my support, including board and clothes, in a style befitting my employer's means and position. Though not a lucrative prospect, it had some attractions for me, not least of which were the certainty of leisure for the indulgence of scholarly tastes and relief from fear of future struggles with poverty.

Mr. A.—having no son, induced me to adopt his name. Now I am forty years old, a graduate of college, fairly good-looking—at least ladies give me a quick glance as they pass me in the street—strong in health and energetic in spirit, but penniless and helpless, and tired of my covenant. Look at a list of my rights. I was my master's confidential clerk and type-writer, copying law papers and looking up authorities. If he writes an article for the press, I revise it. If he is tired of a book agent or an office bore, I despatch him or her. I make the disagreeable calls and placate the disagreeable people. I manage the servants and pay the bills. I am also Mr. A.—'s valet and nurse, onerous and ill-rewarded with smiles—on the principle that no man is a Chesterfield to his valet. The entertainment of his company usually rests on me. From writing a political speech to adjusting a picture, nothing can be done without me. I am everywhere. My coveted leisure was never known, and the only chance of earning a dollar I ever find is by giving a few painting lessons. But I cannot give myself up to art, as my taste would dictate, for I have no time. And for all these duties what am I paid? Nothing. I eat at my master's table. My clothes he gives me gratuitously, and money I never have, not a cent. As to other rewards: I enjoy his respect and sometimes a little of the tail of a rather great kite. I enjoy the approval of my conscience. Of course it is noble to sacrifice self and live for another but a free-born American citizen likes to have five cents in his pocket when a street car comes along. My self-respect suffers daily pangs. My lot is undurable. This contract is for life. I hear you say "How could a sane man make such a bargain?" My dear sir, I am not a sane man. I am not a man at all. I am my employer's (P) wife.

C. E. AMES

SHALL WOMEN VOTE

J. S. Hullock, of New Hartford, Conn., sends the Woman's Journal, Boston, an article restating a great length the usual stock objections to woman suffrage, with a request for its publication. They may be summed up thus: 1. Voting is only an acquired right, which does not inhere in the citizen. 2. The family is a unit, and can have but one representative head—the husband. 3. Women could not legislate for themselves as well as they can now do by and through men. 4. Woman's social position is naturally and necessarily subor-

dinate and subservient. 5. Physical power is the foundation of majority rule. 6. Women as voters would not promote the interests of temperance.

To this they: 1. Under our republican theory governments are just only when they rest on the consent of the governed. 2. The family is not a unit, but a permanent partnership of equals with reciprocal rights and duties. 3. Women only can fully and adequately represent the interests of women. 4. Woman's social position should not be subordinate or subservient. 5. Might does not make right. 6. Women being more temperate than men, and more closely identified with the home, would as voters be a power for temperance.—Canadian Home Guard.

Burdock Blood Bitters cure dyspepsia. Burdock Blood Bitters cure constipation. Burdock Blood Bitters cure biliousness. Burdock Blood Bitters cure headache. Burdock Blood Bitters unlock all the clogged secretions of the bowels, thus curing headaches and similar complaints.

WOULD HARNES THE OCEAN

PROPOSAL TO BUILD A DAM BETWEEN IRELAND AND SCOTLAND AND UTILIZE TIDES.

A bold scheme for obtaining mechanical power for industrial purposes has lately attracted attention in England. It contemplates the construction of a dam fifteen miles long from the northeastern coast of Ireland across "North Channel" to the extremity of Cantire, Scotland, and putting in several gates and water-wheels, to be worked by the tides. Owing to the greater depth of the Irish Sea, and to the freer course afforded west and north of Ireland, the tide comes up from the South Atlantic by that route, and flows southward through the passage just mentioned long before it can get up there on the east side of the Green Isle. Moreover, the Gulf stream or rather the drift from it, bathes the northern part of Great Britain more freely than the southern, and a portion thereof is diverted southward by the Scottish coast, so as to make a continuous current, it is said, flowing down the north channel. Here is a great deal of power, going to waste, and the New York Tribune thinks it is not a senseless proceeding to consider the practicability of utilizing it somehow. American enterprise at Niagara has set the whole world thinking of such matters.

The depth of water is 474 feet in mid channel; but most of the way it is much less than this. The proposed "isthmus"—for that is what the engineers call it—would be about three hundred feet wide, and the material for it, it is thought, might be obtained from the high bluffs at the Irish end. The estimated cost is \$10,000,000, and the time named as necessary for construction is three years. The current flows at six miles an hour most of the way across, and at some places even faster. It is taken for granted that the power developed by this means would be converted into the form of electricity for transmission; but there is some question as to the locality in which it would be used. On the Irish side of the channel, there are no large towns near at hand. Dublin is 120 miles away and London 385; Glasgow, in a bee line, is seventy-five miles distant and Edinburgh about fifty more.

Dyspepsia causes dizziness, headache, constipation, variable appetite, rising and souring of food, palpitation of the heart, distress after eating. Burdock Blood Bitters are guaranteed to cure dyspepsia, if faithfully used according to directions.

FRANCE IN AFRICA

France is now experiencing one of those set-backs which European conquest in Africa occasionally meets. Timbuctoo, where a French detachment is now beleaguered by Tuaregs, lies about 900 miles from the coast of the French colony at Senegal, and on or near the southern edge of the Sahara. It is a few miles from the river Niger. The headwaters of that river are near the headwaters of the Senegal. The French have put a flotilla on the river and maintain communication with Senegal by partly land and partly water routes.

Timbuctoo is an important station on the trade routes of the Sahara and Soudan. It probably dates from the eleventh century. It has about 20,000 inhabitants, a mixed population of Berbers, Tuaregs and natives of the Soudan, with a few Arabs, Jews, etc. The Tuaregs, with whom the French have been so disastrously engaged, are of the same breed as the Berbers of the Atlas in North Africa, though they have experienced considerable mixture with Soudanese races. They are a roving, predatory people, great traders in a wandering way, fiercely independent and good fighters. The range over the Sahara from the Soudan to the Barbary States. Of course it is only a question of time and effort for France to make good her recent conquest of Timbuctoo and the adjacent settled country. The Tuaregs and other nomads will long retain a semi-independence in the French sphere of influence in the Sahara, but projected railway building, the establishment of stations, the occupation of oases, etc., will eventually bring them to a modified subjection. Probably a French railway will soon stretch from Algeria across the Sahara to the fertile and populous regions of the Central and Western Soudan, connecting with another line thence to the Senegal. There is plenty of good country there to be opened to traffic, and it is already peopled with races that have made some progress in agriculture and the mechanic arts.

Dear Sirs.—I have been using Blood Bitters for bilk and skin diseases, and I find it very good as a cure. As a dyspepsia cure I have also found it unequalled.

Mrs. Sarah Hamilton, Montreal, Que.

SCROFULA CURED BY B.B.B.



Dear Sirs.—I had an abscess on my breast and scrofula of the very worst kind, all over my body. I had to walk all around the house without taking hold of chairs to support me. The doctors treated me for three years, and at last said there was no hope for me. I had to take B.B.B. and they said it would do me no harm, so I began to take it, and before three bottles were used I felt great benefit. I have now taken six bottles and am nearly well. I find Burdock Blood Bitters a grand blood purifier and very good for children as a spring medicine.

MRS. JAMES CHASE, Frankfort, Ont.

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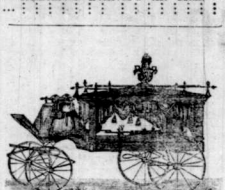
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