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Editorial**"GONE NATIVE"**

"Gone Native" is the title of a book by "Asterisk". In the main it deals mostly with the relations existing between white men and native African women, and like most books written by Englishmen upon this subject it vilifies the native African women and makes heroes and martyrs of white men who are the natives co-partners in such illegitimate relations. "Gone Native" is meant to show that it matters not how virtuous, pure and undefiled white men may be when they come in contact with native women they are harassed by these women until they finally yield to the temptations. It would show further that whenever such unions are effected the whites forget their civilization and their culture, become "native" in their habits and actions, sink to the level of the native and finally they either end their existence from remorse or lose their lives in attempts to protect their illegitimate offspring. They soon find that their black mistresses are unfaithful and that they haven't the maternal love which is an instinct of even the lower animals. In cases where real marriages have taken place the same results obtain. The hero and martyr of "Gone Native," is Geo. Donaldson who has had an illegitimate son by a native woman. He finally leaves them. However, on hearing that his illegitimate offspring was lying critically ill he hastens to his bedside, leaving behind, his fiancée, a beautiful and accomplished white girl, and bright prospects for a future career of usefulness and profit. He nurses his dying boy back to life and health. He swears never again to leave the boy or his mother. He renounces the white man's civilization and vows to live according to the dictates of nature, which is, he says, the native way. Life moves on peacefully and sweetly for a while. But finally his native woman deserts him and the child. Soon afterward the child is severely wounded by a band of "out-law" natives. He takes the child in his arms and enters an improvised native canoe to rush him to the only physician to be had for miles. The boat begins to sink as rescue looms near. But the boat is rapidly sinking. He decides that without his extra weight the boat would remain upright until the rescuers arrived. So over the side of the canoe he plunges into the briny deep, into eternity for

the sake of giving his half caste child a chance to live.

Of course "Gone Native's" assertion that a "half caste" couple cannot have offspring is too ridiculous to mention. From the point of view of the native there is only one redeeming feature. A conversation takes place between

Donaldson, a missionary and the missionary's sister. It runs in part:

Donaldson, (referring to the natives) "They are not my friends, and gentle is the last thing I should call them. But go on"

Miss Hilda: "Well first of all the natives are gentle; gentle in their voices, in their manner. Then they are unselfish, careful of other peoples susceptibilities. Once they understand our likes and dislikes—which in most cases are the opposite to theirs—they are most careful to respect them. Can you say the same thing about white people and native customs? Well I say the natives do respect our customs, foolish as they consider most of them. Then again, they are dignified."

Donaldson: "Yes, I grant you that. I remember once seeing an old chief in Pango being cursed by the little fool of a French Resident. The little brute actually lifted his hand to strike the old man, but he dropped it when he met his look. It was not a threatening look, but just sheer dignity. I remember how horribly glad I felt."

Hilda: "Well then you grant that they are gentle mannered, kind, courteous, dignified, truthful, and honest. What other qualities would you require for gentle folk?"

Aside from this conversation, all of which is not here quoted, the book savors of an attempt to extol the white man's virtues at the expense of the African native women. We are wondering what excuse the author of "Gone Native" would make for the 5,000,000 mulattos here in North America. Would he claim that the powerful slave women haunted and harassed their defenseless masters until these 5,000,000 mulattos came into existence? We had rather believe that it is in Africa as it was in America, the stronger race has imposed itself upon the weaker race, robbing its women of their virtue and stealing from the men by sheer force their labor and their manhood. Not only that but they go further in Africa. They rob the native women of their virtue, they withhold from the men the rightful fruits of their labour and when they grow old they desert them. They rob the natives of their land and in turn they rob the land of its fertile products and when they have impoverished it they throw it away as if it were a squeezed lemon." The author of "Gone Native" and a host of others who make it their business to glorify the "nordics" at the expense of the defenseless natives, could better employ their talents by writing books glorifying the brotherhood of man.

TORONTO

Sunday, June 14th is Children's day in B.M.E. Church. There will be a special programme for the day.

Those on the sick list are Rev. R. A. Ball, Mrs. Bird and Mrs. Enix.

Mrs. M. Howard has been elected the delegate to attend the annual conference which convenes in St. Catharines, June 23rd to 30th.

69th Conference, St. Catharines June 23.

The 69th Conference of the British Methodist Episcopal Church, Missionary Society and Sunday School will convene in St. Catharines, Ont., June 23rd, closing June 28th. A cordial invitation is extended to you to be present.

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