

## WHO SHE WAS

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## **SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF LYDIA E. PINKHAM**

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**And a True Story of How the Vegetable Compound Had Its Birth and How the "Panic of '73" Caused it to be Offered for Public Sale in Drug Stores.**

This remarkable woman, whose [her mother, combined forces to restore her health. For years she had been suffering from various ailments, and her condition was such that she could no longer perform her domestic duties. Her husband, Dr. J. C. Pinkham, was a prominent physician in Lowell, Massachusetts, and he was deeply concerned for his wife's well-being. He consulted with several leading medical authorities, but they were unable to provide a cure. Finally, he decided to try a new remedy, one that he believed might have the power to restore his wife's health. This was the Vegetable Compound, a preparation made from natural ingredients, which he began to administer to Lydia. To his great surprise, the medicine worked wonders. Lydia's health improved rapidly, and she was able to resume her normal life. The success of this treatment led Dr. Pinkham to develop the Vegetable Compound as a permanent remedy for women's ailments. It became widely known and popular, and it is still being used today by millions of women who suffer from similar problems. Lydia's story is a testament to the power of nature's remedies and the importance of seeking help when needed. Her life serves as an inspiration to all who are struggling with health issues, showing that there is always hope and a way forward.

Lynn, Mass., February 9th, 1819, coming from a good old Quaker family. For some years she taught school, and became known as a woman of an alert

The Pinkhams had no money, and little credit. Their first laboratory was the kitchen, where roots and herbs were steeped on the stove, gradually filling a gross of bottles. Then came the question of selling it, for always before they had given it away freely. They hired a job printer to run off some pamphlets setting forth the merits of the medicine, now called Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and these were distributed by the Pinkham sons in Boston, New York, and Brooklyn.

The wonderful curative properties of the medicine were, to a great extent, self-advertising, for whoever used it recommended it to others, and the demand gradually increased.

In 1877, by combined efforts the family had saved enough money to commence newspaper advertising and from that time the growth and success of the enterprise were assured, until to-day Lydia Pinkham and her Vegetable Compound have become household names everywhere.

of a wonderfully sympathetic nature.

In 1848 she married Isaac Pinkham, a builder and real estate operator, and their early married life was marked by prosperity and contentment. They had four children, three sons and a daughter.

In those good old fashioned days it was common for mothers to make their own home medicines from roots and herbs, nature's own remedies—calling in a physician only in especially dire cases. By dint of long experience many of them gained a wonderful knowledge of the curative properties of the various roots and herbs.

Mrs. Pinkham took a great interest in the roots and herbs, their characteristics and power over disease. She maintained that just as nature so bountifully provides in the harvest-fields and orchards vegetable foods of all kinds, so she intended to feed and dress them. In the roots and herbs of the field there are remedies expressly designed to cure

where, and many tons of roots and herbs are used annually in its manufacture.

Lydia E. Pinkham herself did not like to see the great success of this work. She passed to her reward years ago, but her memory and her name are constantly being her work as effectively as she could have done it herself.

During her long and eventful experience she was ever methodical in her work and she was always careful to preserve a record of every case that came to her attention. In the hands of a woman who applied to her for advice and there were thousands—receive careful study and the details, including the names of the ingredients, were recorded for future reference, and to-day these records, together with hundreds of thousands made since, are available to sick women the world over. It is this mass of information, and the wisdom regarding the treatment of woman's ills which for authenticity and economy is

the various ills and weaknesses of the world, and it was her pleasure to search them out, and prepare simple and effective medicines for her own family and friends.

Chief of these was a rare combination of the choicest medicinal roots and herbs found best adapted for the cure of the ills and weaknesses peculiar to the female sex, and Lydia E. Pinkham's friends and neighbors testified that her compound relieved and cured it and became quite popular among them.

All this so far was done freely, without money and without price as a labor of love.

But in 1873 the financial crisis struck Lynn. Its length and severity were too much for the large real estate interests of the Pinkham family, as this class of business suffered most from fearful depression, so when the Centennial year came, and their property was sold away. Some other source of income had to be found.

With Lydia E. Pinkham worked her daughter-in-law, the present Mrs. Pinkham. She was carefully instructed in all her hard-won knowledge, and for years she assisted her in her vast correspondence.

To her hands naturally fell the direction of the work when its original author passed away. For nearly twenty-five years she has continued it, and nothing in the work shows when the first Lydia E. Pinkham dropped her pen, and the present Mrs. Pinkham, now the mother of a large family, took it up. Two woman assistants, some as capable as herself, the present Mrs. Pinkham continues this great work, and probably from the office of another woman.

Women have been advised how to regain health. Sick women, this advice "Yours for Health" freely given if only write to ask for it.

Such is the history of Lydia E. Pinkham's Compound.

At this point Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound was made known to the world.

The three sons and the daughter, with

ham's Vegetable Compound: made from simple roots and herbs; the one good medicine for women's ailments, and a fitting monument to the noble woman whose name it bears.

**TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA**

Preston Says There's a Great Field for Canadian Enterprise.

London, April 29. — Mr. W. T. R. Preston, interviewed by the representative of a Cape Town newspaper, said that after carefully studying the commercial relations of South Africa he had come to the conclusion that 'the market was well worth cultivating on an extensive scale.

If the Canadian merchants and manufacturers will take advantage of the opportunities now offered, and which will undoubtedly be accentuated in the

**BIG FIRE AT UNION CITY**

Nearly the Entire Down Town Section Has Been Destroyed.

Corry, Pa., April 29.—Fire broke out at 10:30 tonight in the building occupied by the Union City Chair Company at Union City, Pa., 10 miles north of here. At 11 o'clock the fire spread with alarming rapidity and the loss is estimated already at \$300,000. Directly opposite the building are three hotels and the occupants were forced to seek places of safety. A pumping system is used for supplying the city with water, and this

near future, and not allow it to be a burden on the United States. European countries to get a start, there is no reason why there should not be an enormous development of Canadian trade with the British possessions in South Africa.

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## GOMPERS ON MAY DAY

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**Says a Fair Wage Prevails and Does Not Expect Trouble.**

Washington, April 29. — President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, fails to see any signs of disturbance in the industrial situation.

"The list of May does not mean so much to labor in this country as in Europe," he said today, in discussing the outlook. "True, there is a little more activity in labor circles in the spring than in other seasons, but that

is natural and is due to the same causes. The difference is that the clothing of the spring is not different from that of the other springs, and May 1 conveys no more threat than the first of any other month. The only movement we notice especially is in the growth of unionism and the steady demand for better conditions for more workers and for the wages earned there. There is great activity in that direction, as shown by the fact that no fewer than 100,000 names have been added to our rolls within the last six months—a growth of about 5 per cent. Not only is our number growing, but our people are generally employed, and, better still, employed at fair wages and with a good prospect of being so continued. I see nothing to be alarmed about."