

Mistakes of Women.

God sent us here to make mistakes,
To strive, to fall, to re-begin,
To taste the tempting fruit of sin,
And find what bitter fruit it makes.

And looking back along the past,
We know we needed all the pain
Of fear and doubt, and stress and strain
To make us value peace at last.

Who fails, finds later triumphs sweet,
Who stumbles once, walks then with care.
And knows the place to cry "Be-
ware!"

To other unaccustomed feet.

Through strife the slumbering soul
Awakes.

We learn on error's troubled route
The truths we might not prize
without
The error of our sad mistakes.

It is curious to note how a certain
order of mind asserts itself at certain
periods.

There are days when the greater
portion of letters which come to me
are from men and women in educa-
tional or reform work.

Again, there will be a succession of
appeals from the laboring classes—
in two days recently I received half a
dozen letters from clergymen, and this
morning's mail brought me three let-
ters from "erring women." Each one
expressed deep repentance for error—
each one asks me if I believe there is
any "forgiveness" for her sin or hope
for her future. One tells me she is
only twenty years old, and that she
fell through evil associations with
immoral people. Already she is tired
of the ways of folly and craving for
a word of encouragement to help her
back to the paths of virtue. Let me
say to her, and to each woman in her
position, that while there is no road
leading back anywhere, there is a
road leading out and up into useful-
ness and morality, even for those
whose feet have wandered far and
away from the safe fields of virtue
and innocence.

We do not always win the race
By only running right—
Some feet must touch the mountain's
base
Before they reach its height.

The civilized world has harped per-
sistently upon the idea that there is
one great virtue for woman—chastity
—and if she possesses that she pos-
sesses all—and if she loses that she
loses all. It is not true. I have met
chaste women who were monuments of
immorality and devoid of honor.
They were filled with jealousy, envy,
malice and all manner of uncharit-
ableness. I have known chaste wom-
en who were liars and mischief-
makers, and again who were selfish
and extravagant and the cause of the
downfall of good husbands, who re-
sorted to dishonest methods to sat-
isfy the ambitions of their wives for
place and power. Chastity is a great
virtue, but it is only one of the
virtues. Let every erring woman
realize this fact and proceed precisely
as she would if she had lost a beau-
tiful solitaire diamond, yet retained
a box of other jewels. Let her, while
she weeps over her loss, carefully
guard her possessions and make the
most of them, instead of throwing the
others after the one which has been
lost or stolen, and never for one mo-
ment let her think her whole life
bankrupt or ruined. I have never en-
countered a really happy woman who
had lost her chastity.

As virtue is said to be its own re-
ward, so its loss is its own punish-
ment.

Woman seems to be spiritually and
mentally so in chord with herself phy-
sically that she cannot rise above an
error of the flesh, as men do.

She must bear her own mental pun-
ishment to the end. But let her at
least realize that she has the same
moral right to build a new future for
herself that man has, and in this era
she has almost as good a chance.

It is a busy age, and woman is
everywhere—in all the arts and
trades and professions, and if she
makes her present moral and unoffend-
ing, few stop to pry into her past.
Why should we, any more than we
pry into the past of every man?

I know some useful, worthy, noble-
hearted and sincere women today who
have lived down early mistakes of a
sex nature. I think of two who mar-
ried "erring men" who, like them-
selves, had reformed, and they are
exceptionally excellent wives.

No doubt their cross is always
borne, though out of sight—the cross
of hateful memories. But they have
won the respect and regard of all who
know them, and they did not permit
early follies to ruin their whole
lives, any more than all masculine
mankind has permitted it in the past.

To you who have fallen and ap-
peal to me for a word of cheer and
hope, I say: Rise up, look to the
loving God who said: "Go and sin
no more," believe in your own white

soul, and make up your mind to be a
better and more charitable woman be-
cause of your error, while you accept
the fact that you can never be as hap-
py as you were before tasting of the
Dead Sea fruit.

One of the worst effects which a
lapse from chastity has on the charac-
ter of the average woman is to
make her suspicious of all other
women and uncharitable in her
thoughts and speech.

Do not let yourself grow distrust-
ful of all women because you have
fallen. Be the last, rather than the
first, to point an accusing finger at
another.

Let your error fill you with sym-
pathy and lead you to help others
away from temptation or up and out
of wrong paths where you yourself
have wandered.

Seek to be useful; and dwell as lit-
tle as possible on your sins and fol-
lies—forget them as much as lies in
your power. Think of good, whole-
some, useful things—read cheerful
books, look for the best in humanity,
and remember always that you are a
divine spirit entitled to God's love
and forgiveness and sympathy, and to
the respect of people, if you live a
worthy life, as you can—Ella Wheel-
er Wilcox.

Placer Miners.

Seattle, Feb. 15.—A party of four
men who own and operate a number
of paying placer properties in the
Chestochina country, Alaska, arrived
in the city yesterday from their
homes in Michigan, and will go north
on the first boat with an outfit which
they expect to get into the country
over the trails. The party consists
of B. E. Skinner, D. P. Griswold, C.
A. Winans and F. P. Benedict. They
own properties on Big Four, Miller
Gulch and Chesna Creek, which they
are working by the sluicing method
with very gratifying results. They
did considerable work last season and
will continue it this year. The mem-
bers of the party are guests of the
Diller hotel, awaiting the sailing of
the Nome City, on which they expect
to go north. Mr. Benedict of the
party said yesterday:

"We are going in in time to freight
our outfit for the season's work into
the country over the snow trail while
it is at its best. Last year we took
in 1,500 pounds to the man and made
good time with the party. This year
we will do as well. Our properties,
which are on Big Four, Miller Gulch
and Chesna, are showing up very sat-
isfactorily and we expect to work
them more extensively this year than
last. There is a vast amount of ex-
cellent hydraulic ground in the
Chestochina district which will be
worked over after the sluicing ground
is exhausted, but at present there is
much sluicing being done, as the ex-
pense of getting hydraulic machinery
into the country under present con-
ditions is prohibitory unless a man
has a large amount of property to
work. But with the coming of the
railroad, which now seems pretty
near, there will come vast changes in
the development of the country, not
alone in this but in many lines."

Rockefeller a Wreck.

New York, Jan. 31.—Changed in
appearance so that his old friends
hardly know him, John D. Rockefeller
has returned to his home in Tarry-
town. The shaving of his mustache
makes a surprising change in the ap-
pearance of the multi-millionaire. He
seems much thinner and more sickly.
His hair is falling out fast and he is
almost entirely bald. He seems to be
more easily fatigued than heretofore.
On his estate of 2,000 acres in the
Pocantico hills Rockefeller often works
for ten days at a time in the fields,
hoping thus to regain his strength,
but thus far his efforts have been in
vain.

After a day's exercise he sits down
to a supper of crackers and skimmed
milk, which is served at a tempera-
ture of 98-2-5 degrees, for nothing
will pass his lips at a temperature
lower than blood heat. He is a phys-
ical wreck.

Is Not a Crime.

Philadelphia, Feb. 15.—Herbert
Wright of this city has been arraign-
ed before Judge Arnold on the charge
of taking laudanum with suicidal in-
tent. Wright pleaded "Guilty" to at-
tempting suicide, but not with intent
to kill himself.

In dismissing the case, Judge Ar-
nold said he doubted if there is such
an offense in this country as attempt-
ing suicide. The law emanated, he
said, from the courts where there
were kings and emperors, who adopt-
ed the theory that it was wrong for
a man to kill himself and thus reduce
the number of king's subordinates.
The judge asserted that a man's life
belonged to himself and his creator,
and he did not know but that he had
the right to kill himself if he so de-
sired.

Special power of attorney forms for
sale at the Nugget office.

Are Artists Happy?

If I were to interview a successful
actress on the subject, I would ask
her to give me a sincere and frank
answer to the two following ques-
tions:

1. If you had to choose again be-
tween the quiet and uneventful life of
a good and beloved wife and mother
and that of a successful actress,
which of the two would you take?

2. If you had a daughter, which of
these two kinds of life would you pre-
fer her to lead?

Among the leading members of the
theatrical profession in England, I
know two actresses who are at the
top of the tree, devoted to their art
and at the same time splendid wives,
most devoted and admirable mothers,
and the mistresses of the happiest
homes that can be found anywhere in
the world—I have named Mrs. Ken-
dal and Miss Winnifred Emery, the
wife of that delightful comedian, Mr.
Cyril Maude. There may be others, I
am sure there are others, but I am
not acquainted with them. A col-
league of mine on the Paris "Figaro"
has lately interviewed our great
actress, Jane Hading, on the subject,
and her remarks are well worth bear-
ing. "Your inquiry is very interest-
ing," she said to my colleague, "but
very delicate. After all, what you
want to have are most intimate con-
fidences. You want to get to the re-
mote part of our hearts. You want
to obtain from women the last secret
of their lives, the enigma which they
are so careful to conceal behind their
smiles, because they do not care to
excite either envy or pity."

"No," replied my friend, "I do not care to
go as far as that. I simply want to
call on women artists as I would
on the inhabitants of an unknown
and tempting island, and say to
them, 'Is this country beautiful?'
Would you settle here if you were
again to make a choice? Would you
send here your lady friends, your sis-
ters, your daughters?' These are the
only questions I would ask them to
answer." "But," replied the great
actress, "will they be sincere in their
answers? After all, we judge life
from the impression of the moment.
If you interview the woman the day
after she has carried a great triumph,
she will tell you there is no happiness
for her outside of her work and her
artistic aspirations. If, on the con-
trary, you call on her after she has
had a failure, you will find that she
will curse her career and advise every
woman to keep out of the theatrical
profession. But you ask me my per-
sonal opinion. Well, personally, I
would choose this life again and
again, because all emotions in the
world are tame and insipid compared
to those of an artistic life. And you
will find that feeling not only in the
leading actresses, but down to those
who have but a line to say, if they
possess the artistic temperament. No
doubt success adds to our happiness,
so I will answer decidedly, yes, we
women artists are happy—so happy
that you see us cling to the life to
the end; so happy that our idea of
utter wretchedness is that of having
to retire from it."

No doubt there is a certain amount
of happiness in the constant satisfac-
tion of a craving, but I very much
doubt whether I can call it happiness
proper.

Jane Hading was married, but di-
vorced, and owns that she was never
able to do justice to her genius until
she was divorced. The woman who
wants to express on the stage the
whole gamut of passions must to a
certain extent go through all of them
in private life.

If I had a daughter who showed a
decided taste for the stage, I would
use all my influence to dissuade her.
If I found she had a vocation for it
(genius will always reveal itself) I
would use all my influence to make
her devote her life to her art and
give up all idea of marrying and lead-
ing a life that could only handicap
her.—Max O'Rell.

Fell From Balcony.

New York, Feb. 15.—While the au-
dience at the Victoria Theatre was sit-
ting in darkness, looking at a scene
representing a cotton field in moon-
light, a man fell from the first bal-
cony and landed on the head of a
woman who was sitting in the or-
chestra. The fall was fully twenty
feet. The woman was not seriously
hurt.

Some one cried "Fight." Persons in
the audience mistook it for "fire"
and scores of people quickly got on
their feet. Prompt action of the at-
tendants, however, soon quieted the
crowd and the cause of the distur-
bance was carried away by the police.
To the latter he said he was George
S. Bullock, a salesman, formerly of
Chicago.

Alaska Oil Lands.

Seattle, Feb. 15.—That large de-
posits of mineral oils will be found in
the neighborhood of Cook Inlet is the
confident belief of Thomas W. Han-

more, who has spent considerable
time in that section of Alaska pros-
pecting for oil. Already there is one
outfit drilling a well on Innerskin
Bay and the well, which is down sev-
eral hundred feet, bears very favor-
able indications that oil will eventu-
ally be struck.

Thousands of acres of oil lands have
been located about Cold Bay, Coal
Oil Bay and Innerskin Bay and sev-
eral other drilling outfits will be taken
into the country during the coming
season.

Mr. Hanmore has control of some
3,200 acres of the most promising oil
lands in the vicinity of Cold Bay and
came out of the country last fall for
the purpose of arranging for develop-
ment work. On the properties which
belong to him and his associates
there are several springs from which
oil freely flows and numerous other
indications bear out the belief that
oil will be found by sinking wells to
a sufficient depth.

One of the strongest of these indi-
cations is the recent discovery of a
large deposit of what appears to be
sediment remaining from a lake of
oil which has dried up. This deposit
covers an area of from five to eight
acres and is from two to seven feet
in depth. When it was first discov-
ered it was thought to be asphalt, but
samples which were brought out by
Mr. Hanmore and analyzed prove it
to have a paraffin base. The sedi-
ment burns freely and makes the fin-
est kind of fuel.

Mr. Hanmore is quartered at the
Diller Hotel on his way to Alaska
and in an interview said:

"The oil prospects of that district
are good. Several of the springs on
the properties I control flow oil and
the existence of a large body of what
appears to be oil sediment from a
dried up lake is unmistakable evi-
dence that there has been oil there.
It was thought that this sediment
was asphalt but my analysis proves
that it has a paraffin base. It makes
the finest kind of fuel, burning freely
and giving out a strong heat."

WIDE SCOPE IS GIVEN

To the Klondike Creeks Railway.

Canadian Government Offers Every Inducement to the New Enterprise.

Seattle, Feb. 16.—The secretary of
the Klondike Mines Railway Com-
pany is in receipt of an official com-
munication from Clifford Sifton,
minister of the interior of the Do-
minion government, at Ottawa, con-
veying the information that the route
of the proposed line has been formally
approved by Hon. J. H. Ross, com-
missioner of the Yukon territory, and
authorizing its immediate construc-
tion.

"Inasmuch as it is in the public in-
terest that everything possible and
proper should be done to facilitate
the early construction of this line of
railway," writes Minister Sifton, "I
hereby authorize the before-named
company, its officers, agents, survey-
ors, workmen or contractors to enter
upon any crown lands crossed by the
line of railway as shown by said
plans, for the purpose of constructing
the said railway."

Every latitude is given the company
in the construction of the line. In
the event of its being found necessary
to make any deviations in the line of
the road, as shown by the plans and
profiles, because of obstacles which
Minister Sifton may deem sufficient to
warrant such deviation, the new
route chosen will be looked upon as
the true right-of-way of the line.

The company is incorporated with
a capital stock of \$1,000,000 for the
first section. The charter was grant-
ed by act of the Canadian parliament
in 1899, with Thomas W. O'Brien,
James Arthur Seybold, William D.
Ross, Llewellyn N. Bate and Harold
Buchanan McGivern as the provision-
al directors. The route described in
the charter allows construction up
Bonanza, Eldorado and Dominion
creeks and thence down Huer creek
and the Klondike river, constituting
a belt line covering the entire Klon-
dike district. When completed it will
be more than eight miles in length.

The line is to begin at Dawson and
the first section will end at Grand
Forks. The Indian and Stewart riv-
ers will mark the other termini. By
the terms of the act granting the
charter extending the time for con-
struction it is provided that the con-
struction of the line is to be com-
menced and 15 per cent. of the cap-
ital stock expended thereon before

July 10, 1903. The railway is to be
finished and put into operation by
July 10, 1906. It is announced that
the work will be commenced in the
immediate future.

Class May Object.

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 13.—The selec-
tion of Booker T. Washington as
commencement day orator for the
University of Nebraska next June
was announced tonight by Chancellor
Andrews. The invitation was sent to
Mr. Washington by the faculty, and
his acceptance was received four days
ago. A number of members of the
senior class, which has a voice in the
choice of an orator, announced their
opposition to the selection of a neg-
ro, and may make a protest at a
meeting of the class called for to-
morrow to discuss the matter.

Will Return a Benedict.

Mr. L. C. Branson, city editor of
the Morning Sun, left this morning
for Skagway, where he will be met
by Miss Cora P. Austin of Los
Angeles, California. They will be
married at Skagway and the bride
will accompany her husband on his
return to Dawson. Where there is a
will there is a way, even if that way
does lead over 400 miles of ice.

"Few people in England," remarks
a London paper, "who grow the sun-
flower for ornament have any idea of
its usefulness." And then it proceeds
thus to describe the sunflower on its

native heath in this country. The
rich is this plant in oil that the seed
of one of these monster plants will
yield fifty gallons of oil, while the
refuse of the seed, after this quan-
tity of oil has been expressed, weighs
1,500 pounds when made into cake.

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