

# PECULIAR WILL MADE

## Fortune Was Left to His Secretary

### Rich Author Cuts Out His Family for Benefit of His Assistant.

New York, Aug. 24.—"I give and bequeath all property, real and personal, which I have at the time of my death, and especially all money deposited in bank, all books, manuscripts, royalties in 'Modern Thinkers' or other literary productions, the right to publish unpublished works, and all other effects of every nature and kind, to Miss Melissa Waxham, my assistant and friend, to have and to hold the same as her own forever."

By the above unique will, written on a slip of paper, and filed yesterday at the surrogate's office, Van Buren Denslow, the noted economic and political writer, who died last July at No. 228 West Seventeenth street, turns over all his wealth, variously estimated at from \$40,000 to \$60,000, to his literary assistant and housekeeper, Miss Waxham, disinheriting his widow and four children.

"Mrs. Denslow is a wealthy woman in her own right and does not need the money which has been left me," said Miss Waxham last evening. "She has a handsome town house in Rochester and a country home at Gates, New York. However, I shall see that one-third of the property goes to her."

"Twenty-two years ago, fourteen years after Mr. Denslow separated from his wife, I secured a position with him as typewriter and proof-reader. Having been graduated from the Chicago Homeopathic college and taught school for some years I was well qualified to assist him in his work."

"My friendship and literary assistance served as an inspiration to him during the time he was writing his various books. Together we prepared the 'Principles of Political Economy,' 'Modern Thinkers,' with an introduction by Robert Ingersoll, and 'Owned and Disowned.' During the twelve years we have lived in West Seventeenth street, I have had complete charge of the house, which was owned by him, and his other business interests."

"Besides his wife, Mr. Denslow has a wealthy sister, Mrs. Olive Parsons, of Yonkers, and a son, Harry Denslow, who resides on Jerome avenue in The Bronx. None of the family ever came to see Mr. Denslow except just before his death, when at Mr. Denslow's request I asked Harry to call and see his father. After the funeral Harry Denslow put his lawyer in charge of the house, but later I regained possession, and I understand that the will is not to be contested, providing the one-third goes to the widow."

Mr. Denslow held editorial positions upon the New York Tribune and the Chicago Tribune, and was an intimate friend of Andrew Carnegie. He wrote extensively for the Chicago Inter Ocean and other leading papers of the country. He was considered a leading authority upon economic questions.

At the time of his death Mr. Denslow was about seventy years old. Miss Waxham, his housekeeper and literary assistant, is about fifty years of age, and bears evidence of the remarkable beauty said to have been hers in youth. The will filed for probate was made nineteen years ago in Chicago.

### Belt and Neck Ruffles

There are so many new and pretty accessories that to keep thoroughly up to date requires quite a separate allowance for et ceteras alone. The new shaped belts are becoming when they fit perfectly; otherwise they are a failure. Very narrow belts are worn with blouses and skirts, but if the bodice is made in bolero fashion or the shirt is worn with a short bolero the belt is very wide and much decorated at the back.

Elastic belts studded with metal spots are shown, but are not very popular, although most effective with a short sack bolero. A boa, toque and muff en suite worn at a smart wedding last week showed the fashion for spring. The toque had the slightly round turned up brim completely covered by rows innumerable of lightly plaited white tulle. A sweeping paradise osprey fastened inside the brim with a large pearl or-

nament turned over the crown of tucked black chiffon and white chenille completely covered the crown. One immense chou of black tulle and a short length of fine white lace ornamented the front, and the end of the lace was caught up with a cabochon of pearls.—Ex.

### To Andrew Carnegie

(By Sam C. Dunham.)

I'm informed that you're afraid  
To explore Death's gloomy glade  
Till you've restitution made

Of the pelf  
You extracted from the toll  
Of the men who sweat and broil,  
Keeping nearly all the spoil  
For yourself.

You imported hordes of Huns,  
And with clubs and galling guns  
Drove our working native sons

From your mills,  
While the Congressmen you paid  
On the armor-plate you made  
A protective tariff laid

In their bills.  
You find balm in the belief  
That the most colossal thief  
May repent and buy relief

For his soul;  
Ere he climbs the golden stairs  
He must pay the rightful heirs  
All he stole.

Now the men who earned your gold  
Rapidly are growing old,  
Weak from hunger and from cold:

They can't work.  
With old age fast creeping on,  
With their loved ones starved and gone,  
They are waiting for the dawn  
At the kirk.

While they beg their daily bread,  
With no place to lay their head,  
And no hope till they are dead,

Neath the mould,  
You are squandering their means  
Mid' attractive foreign scenes,  
And you'll buy the Philippines—  
If they're sold.

You are building everywhere  
Homes for books and pictures rare,  
While these men die of despair,  
And I'm told

That you hope to write your name  
On the world's great roll of fame,  
And expect to gild the same  
With their gold.

Now, I have a better scheme,  
It's no poet's idle dream,  
And it would your soul redeem

At the last:  
Give your millions to the ones  
Whom you drove out for the Huns  
At the muzzle of your guns  
In the past.

If you'll take my scheme in hand  
Everyone in this broad land  
Will declare your project grand  
And sublime.

Peace of mind you'll then secure,  
God will bless you, I am sure,  
And your fame it will endure  
For all time.

### Important Witness

Chicago, Aug. 24.—Whether or not the exhuming of the body buried in Calvary cemetery as that of Minnie Mitchell shall develop that the missing girl's family was correct in accepting the body as that of their missing daughter, the police have secured ample evidence to indicate that the young woman was lured into the basement of the Bartholin house on the Wednesday night that William Bartholin and his sweetheart vanished from sight. An important witness, whose name will not be made public for the present, is a business man whose home is not far from the Bartholin house.

According to this witness, he alighted from a Forty-third street car shortly after 9 o'clock, an hour after Minnie Mitchell and her lover bade adieu to the Mitchell family on the steps of the house at 694 Forty-fourth street. He walked along Calumet avenue, and his walk led him past the Bartholin house. As he went by he noticed a woman, apparently quite young, standing on the grass plot in front of the building. The pedestrian had gone beyond the Bartholin residence, when he heard a man's voice, and looking back he could just discern a figure outlined against the staircase leading to the basement which two weeks ago gave up Mrs. Bartholin's body. The man on the steps, who is assumed to have been William Bartholin, said something that could not be heard, and the girl, responding, asked why the first speaker wanted her to go into the "filthy basement."

Turning back again, when he had gone some distance in his walk, the man caught a glimpse of the woman descending into the basement. The police today found a canvas overshoe covered with blood in the Bartholin house. Its size precludes its having belonged to Mrs. Bartholin, but it has not been identified as belonging to Minnie Mitchell.

At Auditorium—The Unknown.

# TEACHING THE BOERS

## How the Youngsters Are Being Anglicized

### Will Not be Long Until All Will be Able to Speak Good English.

The enlistment of Canadian teachers for the Boer children in the concentration camps lends interest to a sketch of these schools which recently appeared in The Times. The correspondent says:

Mr. Sargent (the director of public education) has devoted himself with whole-hearted enthusiasm to the work. He began with about 100 teachers for the camp schools. He has now 200. Before the end of the year he hopes to add another 100 to his staff. Some of these teachers are Dutch; the latest importations are chiefly Scotch. The next batch will be English, Scotch and colonial.

In every camp there are schools in proportion to the number of child refugees. Instruction is given in English, and in some of the lower classes an important part of the work consists in teaching the children to speak English. I was present at a lesson of this sort, which consisted in putting up a picture on an easel in front of a large class. It happened to be a farm-yard picture, and the eager-eyed class, all of very small children, was asked if anyone could say what he saw. Presently a chubby hand went up from one of the benches and a confident little voice piped out the single word "cow." His pronunciation was correct, and the next minute the whole class was shouting in unison "I see a cow." Then a rival aspirant for fame discovered

"two cows." Another eagerly outstripped him with "two cows in the green grass." The fun grew fast and furious, and the shout in unison as I passed on had reached to something like the length of a response to the Psalms. There was no doubting the enjoyment of the children. The keenness of the upper classes, which receive tuition up to the level of the highest standard at home, is as great as that of the lower; and the statistical results given by the educational reports bear out fully the impression gained by ocular demonstration. There are actually in the camps, keenly profiting by the opportunities of English education, a larger number of children than ever figured before the war on the Dutch school rolls. I have not before me the total numbers for the two colonies combined, but for the Orange River Colony alone the number now attending the camp schools—and attending with an unusually high average of regularity—is about 11,500 children, whereas the greatest number on the Dutch school rolls before the war was 9,500. In other words, the entire young population of the colony is for the time being under English tuition. Mr. Sargent, it must be understood, is director of public education for both colonies, and all that has been said applies in system to the two, though I have personally as yet only seen the methods in application in the Orange River Colony.

### Up to Date

Parisians make a complete study of lingerie, and each new fashion in gowns is provided with some new arrangement of the corset which molds the figure to the required outline. The little empire corset, or ceinture, merely covers the bust and is held by shoulder straps, and over this the empire toilet hangs to perfection. Then for the figure with hips inclined to spread unduly there are many new basque corsets, where the hips are completely covered by a shaped basque, put on separately and held down by double or triple sets of suspenders. These basques are deftly padded if necessary and are so accurately modeled that they lessen the size of the hips and control the shape and outline. The basques are of coutille or of the brocade material which is really a kind of jean or coutille as used for the corset.

Princess petticoats are now made quite straight in front and without an atom of fullness at the back. Empire petticoats have short bodices in camisole fashioned with a drawing ribbon below the bust, and tiny straps form the armholes. The skirt attached to this is straight and ungored and trimmed with frills at the edge.

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### Taxing the Gold Mines.

Cohannesburg, Aug. 21.—The policy of the government in regard to the Rand seems to meet favor on all sides and it looks extremely doubtful if the few "kickers" would be able to maintain their ground in face of a general prosperity. The most disgruntled people of all are the stockholders in the Rand mines, who expected that after all the fight was accomplished they would be able to reap an enormous harvest, exclusively to their own benefit. That this is not to be so seems apparent from the new system of taxation which has been formed for the Transvaal. The idea of the entire taxation scheme to be that individual enterprise should be fostered and the poorer miners not be made to bear an undue financial burden. To this end the tax should be levied, will be levied, not on gross returns, but upon net profits. The proposition is that steps be taken to benefit mine owners and mine workers in such a way that they shall be financially benefited. Important features of the new regulations are:—The abolition of transit dues upon goods brought through the southern colonies, an equitable adjustment of colonial railway rates, a reduction of the excessive railway charges made by the Netherlands railway, which is the short cut to Delagoa Bay, and the sweeping aside of the dynamite monopoly, which has existed for the interests of a purely selfish corporation, and will mean a clear saving to the colonies of \$3,000,000 a year. In fact, the economies to be brought about by the changes in fiscal policy here will amount collectively to not less than \$1.25 per ton of ore mined. A prominent capitalist asserted the other day that the working cost at the mines will be reduced practically 25 per cent., amounting to \$1.75 per ton, and a financial authority here asserts that we may estimate for the coming year, on these propositions, a net gain (taking the year 1899 as the most calculable basis), after paying the new profit sterling per year. Basing the calculations upon this arrangement and probable production it is estimated that within three years the net saving from the Rand mines will amount to about three and a half millions sterling. Beyond these net gains in profits the mines will benefit from the utilization of low-grade ore, which will now be rendered available for exploitation. It is evident from these

figures that the new tax of 10 per cent. upon net profits can really be increased for the general benefit if necessary, and that the Transvaal can bear the taxable burden of the entire confederation if necessary with profit to itself and a general amelioration of conditions all around. In fact, it seems impossible to suggest that the new system will not benefit the many and result in a largely in-

creased sphere of prosperity for all residents in the colonies.

New York, Aug. 24.—Henry R. Miller, of this city, assistant secretary of the North American Company, has been drowned while bathing at Atlantic Highlands, N. J. An attack of heart disease while Miller was near shore caused his death, in the plain view of a score of his friends.

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From Wounds

Aug. 24.—Town Marwin, who was fatally a battle last night with a negro desperado the murder of a com- here today from his posse is in pursuit of the

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