

The Family Circle.

GARDENS.

The wide fair gardens, the rich lush gardens,
Which no man planted, and no man tills,
Their strong seeds drifted, their brave bloom
lifted,
Near and far o'er the vales and hills;
Sip the bees from their cups of sweetness,
Poises above them the wild free wing,
And night and morn from their doors are borne
The dreams of the tunes that blithe hearts
sing.

The waving gardens, the fragrant gardens
That toss in the sun by the broad highway,
Growing together, gorse and heather,
Aster and golden-rod all the day,
Poppies dark with the wine of slumber,
Daisies bright with the look of dawn,
The gentian blue, and the long year through
The flowers that carry the seasons on.

And the dear old gardens, the pleasant gardens
Where mother used to gatter about,
Tying and pulling, and sparingly culling,
And watching each bud as its flower laughed
out;
Hollyhocks here, and the prince's feather,
Larkspur and primrose, and lilies white.
Sweet were the dear old-fashioned gardens
Where we kissed the mother, and said, "Good-
night."

—Margaret E. Sangster, in *Harper's Bazar*.

HOW GAMBLING WAS STOPPED IN CHICAGO.

A reminiscent review of the recent crusade against gambling is replete with incidents. The campaign commenced under the gloom of adverse conditions, but ended in the glory of a complete triumph.

The transformation was effected speedily but thoroughly, and, as we believe, permanently. At the inauguration of the work few men acquainted with the political, commercial and criminal conditions of Chicago believed that the effort could succeed. Immense odds were against success. Investigation through competent and creditable channels had revealed the alarming prevalence of the crime. One hundred and fifty places where gambling was more less extensively conducted were discovered by our agents. It was learned that about fifteen hundred or two thousand professional gamblers infested the city and that fully five thousand habitués frequented the gaming dives. The gambling fraternity was found to possess incalculable wealth, including at least four of our millionaires. The revenue from the gambling houses was incredibly large, so that their proprietors could afford to pay enormous rentals and large contributions to the protection fund, and then grow wealthy on the robbery of their victims. Intimations had been made that this public evil existed through not only the patronage of the vicious community, but also through the indulgence of the police department. The inactivity of the police in abating the evil cannot be explained on the basis of ignorance or inability, for the police department is Argus-eyed in its survey of the entire municipality, and Briareus-banded in its power to cope with crime. The natural and necessary inference is that the inaction of the police is accounted for by complicity with the crime for which they share its profits. Gambling was protected by fortifications of gold, through which the police could not or would not pass. It was reported with varying testimony that from nine thousand dollars to thirty thousand dollars was monthly paid by the gamblers for immunity.

Meanwhile the great public, absorbed in the race for wealth and the pursuit of pleasure, was indifferent to these deplorable facts and slept as Gulliver's giant, all unconscious of the entralling bonds that were fastened about it. A sea monster was imperiling the Andromeda of our civic life, and no Persens of public sentiment appeared to strike the monster low. The Minotaur was daily slaying the youth of our city and no Theseus of police control advanced to grapple with the dragon.

Thus the prevalence of the crime, the protection of it by the police, and the in-

difference to it by the public presented ominous conditions for the crusade to meet. But the Civic Federation, composed of reputable and influential elements, actuated by no partisan or sectarian purpose, and prompted only by the desire to promote the public weal, planned an assault upon this foe to all the interests of man. It discussed measures and methods and finally adopted a plan, the promoters of which believed would be effective in suppressing the evil. The conditions of success must be effected before a satisfactory result could be reached: first, to arouse public sentiment and crystalize the civic conscience; secondly, to coerce our officials who are clothed with the authority and charged with the duty of suppressing crime; and thirdly to punish through indictment, conviction and infliction of appropriate penalties both the practitioners in crime and their accessories who own the property in which they ply their pernicious trade.

A variety of methods, including eight general plans of assault, were devised and prosecuted with zeal and energy. No single plan would have accomplished the purpose. All of the plans if tried consecutively would probably have failed. But these several measures were undertaken simultaneously and were brought to bear with augmented and tremendous force upon the citadel of evil. The inevitable result was that the fortress fell, shattered by the manifold attack.

The following schedule describes the avenues of assault:

First—A time was selected which, because of the proximity of an important election, would force the political parties, and especially that in power, to wash their hands of the iniquity. When political interests are subjected to the crucial test of an aroused public sentiment it behooves all parties to repudiate crime. There was absolutely no political prestige sought for either party, and this time was employed only as the most probable to success.

Secondly—While the various forcible methods were in progress, influence was brought to bear through personal friends and political associates upon the ruling authorities to exercise their official authority in the suppression of the evil in order to acquit the administration of the damaging appearances of complicity and protection.

Thirdly—The united and harmonious support of the newspapers was solicited and secured, in order that the press, which is the college of the people and their ethical monitor, might exert its potent agency in arousing public indignation and constraining the official sense of responsibility.

Fourthly—The aid of the pulpit was requested for a simultaneous denunciation of the conditions and causes of the crime in every church, Catholic and Protestant, in every ethical society and Jewish synagogue in the city, to which request a general and generous response was given.

Fifthly—A series of mass meetings was arranged by which the sentiment thus engendered could be forcibly expressed; and before crowded audiences, representatives of all classes, industrial, political, moral and religious, declaimed with vehemence against the further intolerance of the vice.

Sixthly—In order to cut off the revenues arising from the nefarious business vigorous efforts were put forth which were designed to intimidate its patrons, believing that reduction of traffic would militate against its permanence.

Seventhly—As the statutes of Illinois hold the owners of property occupied for gaming purposes equally guilty with the gamblers and subject to the same penalties, which are progressive and adequate, a deliberate plan to prosecute criminally, through the process of indictment and conviction, fine and imprisonment, was directed against these owners, who, while sharing the gains of the business in increased rentals, seek to preserve their respectability.

Eighthly—The main stress of the cam-

paign was naturally laid on the prosecution of the gamblers themselves and the demolition of their implements of trade, and every means for the embarrassment of the business was employed without fear or favor.

The proceedings against the gamblers were divided into two assaults:

First, against them individually as law-breakers, as the proprietors or employees of gaming houses, by which assault, through competent evidence submitted to the grand jury, many indictments have already been found and many others are expected; and, secondly, against their property by a number of simultaneous raids which took forcible but legal possession of their tables and tools and caused them to be destroyed. These raids were intended to excite public indignation against the traffic, furnish information of the existence and character of gambling to the pulpit and the press, terrorize the patrons of these places, excite the apprehension of the owners of the property, impress on the administration the political wisdom of disowning the business, and hamper and harass the proprietors of gaming houses themselves. Four different series of raids were arranged, each under the administration of a separate attorney, each with legal search warrants issued by separate authority, and each with the execution of these warrants through a separate agency. Search warrants secured from the Police Magistrate Foster were placed in the hands of Superintendent Brennan for execution by the police; search warrants issued by Justice of the Peace Everett were placed in the hands of Matt Pinkerton's detective agency for execution through deputy constables; search warrants issued by Justice of the Peace Underwood were placed in the hands of Sandmeyer's detective agency, for similar execution; and search warrants issued by Theodore Brentano, judge of the Superior Court, were placed in the hands of Sheriff Gilbert, of Cook County, for execution through his posse. Each series was furnished with evidence to support the justice of the raids and directed by an attorney empowered to prosecute them to a successful issue.

When all these plans matured, converging at an appointed time, it was confidently expected that they could not fail to accomplish their purpose. Within forty-six hours of the first public stroke in the raid upon the wealthiest gambling house in Chicago, public gambling was suppressed. Let this victory over evil, in a city where it was most flagrant and formidable, encourage the citizens of other afflicted places to achieve the same success. May God prosper every endeavor for municipal reform.—*Rev. Wm. G. Clarke, in Ram's Horn.*

THE TAJ MAHAL.

The most beautiful building in the world, the Taj Mahal, was erected by the Mogul Emperor, Shah Johan, as the tomb of his dearly loved wife, the beautiful Noor Mahal. The following poetical description of this famous mausoleum is by the Rev. George F. Pentecost, London, in the *Sunday Magazine*:

"I have recently looked upon the snow-covered and stupendous heights of Kinsinjunga and Everest until my soul was full of wonder and awe at the work of God. This I can understand; but here is the creation of man, small as compared with the smallest mound at the foot of the Himalayas, which seem to surprise and claim the attention more than the giant mountain. I have been to see it again and again in early and late daylight, morning and evening time, and in the brilliant and quiet moonlight and starlight of the night, and it never palls—the witchery and beauty of it grow upon you all the time. The last time I went to see it was at night. The Moon was at three-quarters full. The stars paling away from the Moon were brilliant in the clear Eastern sky. As I entered the silent

doorway of the great gate and looked down the vista of trees over the moonlit water, it rose upon the vision like an archangel with folded wings, as if it had just floated down from above. Drawing nearer and nearer, step by step, its simple and majestic beauty rose to a height it had never seemed to have before. The silence was eloquent, for there was no travel of globe-trotting tourists at that hot season. Only the silent white-robed figure of the Mohammedan Chankidar was seen, not far from the entrance of the tomb. A light was faintly burning at the head of the gravestone where for three hundred years the ashes of the dead queen have been peacefully reposing. The whole effect was so spectral, so spiritual, that I instinctively paused as if in the presence of the supernatural. The Moon was not directly over it, but shone down upon it obliquely from just below mid-heaven. On the front and one side, the brilliant moonlight brought out every beautiful detail of carved frieze and dado, and caused the texts of the Koran and the inscribed stones about the upper cornice to glisten and sparkle as if they were alive with some sort of mysterious but soft fire. On the other side, the deep beautiful shadows half concealed it and fell away down upon the marble paved platform. The four sentinel minarets on the corners of the platform stood beautifully silent, as if even they were consciously gazing upon their lovely charge. Its silence was only equal to its stately and modest beauty. We speak of marble as being cold, yet this pile of marble, chaste and beautiful as the moonlight itself, seemed instinct with life. If it had suddenly glowed and breathed with life, or heaved a sigh as of satisfied rest, I should not have been surprised. . . . Within the Taj is another wonder. The faintest sound, yea, even a sigh, is whispered back from the sensitive vault above, in an echo which is full of music. It is said that the ignorant people who come to see it, and who never speak above a breath when within, fancy that sweet echo to be the whisper of unseen angels who dwell above in the dome to watch over the tombs of Shah Jehan and his beloved wife. I can easily credit the superstition. Here again for the last time I uttered aloud a strain on the major chords of the musical scale, and the answer came back a thousand times sweeter from the vaulted roof, and, reverberating through it all, filled it with a music more sweet and praiseful than ever pealed forth from an organ. While these expiring echoes were still sounding faint and fainter in my ear, I crept out of the Taj, nor looked back again upon it, still holding it in my mind—I had almost said my soul."

THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

The British Empire is a political creation unparalleled in the world's history, not only by its extent and population, in both which respects it is slightly surpassed by China, but because, with an area of more than 10,000,000 square miles and with 350,000,000 inhabitants, it is scattered over the whole globe. It embraces all zones, from the icy wilderness of Hudson Bay to the tropical jungles of India and the mahogany forests of Honduras; there is scarcely a product which a British province does not bring forth in excellent quality. And not less various are the degrees of civilization of its inhabitants, from the Kaffirs of the Cape to the highly cultivated citizens of Toronto or Sydney. We find, with Christians of all confessions, 200,000,000 Hindus, about 75,000,000 Mohammedans and 8,000,000 Buddhists, and the Bible is printed in 150 languages and dialects represented in the empire. Yet, notwithstanding such promiscuous elements, the Government, with rare exceptions, maintains order, and no sign of dissolution is visible.—*Forum.*

The death of the Dowager-Duchess of Roxburgh is the loss to the Queen of a greatly valued personal friend.