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PRICES AWAY DOWN IN THE VALLEYS.

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teeth to their original shape,
this process only costs a
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FREE CRAYON PORTRAITS AND FRAMES

To all our Subscribers for 1892.



We, the publishers of "North American Homes," in order to increase the circulation of our journal throughout the United States and Canada, will send this year over one hundred thousand dollars among our new subscribers in the form of an artistic Crayon Portrait and a handsome frame (as per cut below), to be made free of charge for every new subscriber to "North American Homes." Our family journal is a monthly publication consisting of 16 pages, filled with the best literature of the day, by some of the best authors, and is worthy of the great expense we are doing for it. Eight years ago the *New York World* had only about 15,000 daily circulation; to-day it has over 300,000. This was obtained by judicious advertisement and a lavish outlay of money. What the proprietor of the *N. A. H.* has accomplished we feel confident of doing ourselves. We have a large capital to draw upon, and the handsome premium we are spending now among our subscribers will soon come back to us in increased circulation and advertisements. The Crayon Portrait we will have made for you will be executed by an artist of the highest skill, and a perfect likeness to the original. There is nothing so useful as an ornamental and a handsome framed Crayon Portrait of yourself or any member of your family; therefore this is a chance in a lifetime to get one already framed ready to hang in your parlor absolutely free of charge.

READ THE FOLLOWING GRAND 30 DAYS' OFFER:

Send us \$1.50, price for one year subscription to "North American Homes," and send us also photograph, tintype or daguerotype of yourself or any member of your family, living or dead, and we will make you from some artistic half life size Crayon Portrait, and put the same in a good substantial gilt or bronze frame of 2 inch moulding absolutely free of charge; will also furnish genuine French glass, boxing and hanging same free of expense. Cut out and send it with your photograph at once, also your subscription, which you can remit by Draft, P. O. Order, Express Money Order, or Postal Note, made payable to

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JOS. COOPER,

PROPRIETOR.

THE GREAT NIAGARA TUNNEL.

It is Nearly Ready to be Tested and Produce 100,000 Horse Power.

Work on the great tunnel is nearing completion. The "head-houses" have been taken down, and with much of the machinery, they will be conveyed to Weehawken and used there by the contractors who are to construct the Bergen tunnel. The excavations on the large inlet canal are practically completed, and the inlet masonry is laid sufficiently to permit of "stop planks" being put in. The side-walls of the canal also are completed as far as intended for the delivery of water to produce 100,000 horse power. Of course this is likely to be extended as soon as there is demand for increased horse power. There yet remains a small section of earth and rock midway across the canal as a protection if the outside dam should give way and let the water rush in.

Engineer Baumann of the Swiss firm who made the plans for the turbine wheels is in this country yet, and is busy arranging his plans for the location of the upper end of the penstock. As soon as these are received, the work of making the connections to the wheel pits will be finished. Then most of the work at this point, viz., in the canal, on the inlets and connections to the wheel pits will be done. All that will remain to be done will be to make the connections from the wheel pits to the tunnel proper, and water can then course through the tunnel.

For it must be understood that the tunnel is in three parts; first, the canal, which conveys water from the Niagara River, to the wheel pits, just as an ordinary mill race carries water from above the dam to the mill wheels; second, the wheel pits, which are perpendicular holes hundreds of feet deep, at the bottom of which are placed the Swiss turbines, made to revolve with tremendous velocity by the terrific fall of water upon them; and, third, the tunnel proper, which is nothing more than a gigantic tail race, conveying the water to the river gorge below the cataraet. The canal is so constructed that it can be extended at any time, and additional wheel pits may be put in as required. The "head-houses" above referred to are built over the mouths of the wheel pits, and will be replaced by iron manholes.

All fears that the mouth of the tunnel would be left in an unsightly condition have been dissipated within the past few weeks since the workmen have begun building the massive stone arch. Messrs. Rodgers & Clements, who had the contract for the water over the dam out into the hop of an old beer barrel. The clippings of the travelling tinker are mixed with the parings of horses' hoofs and the worst kinds of woollen rags, and these are worked up into an exquisite blue die, which graces the dress of courtly dames. The dregs of port wine, carefully decanted by the toper, are taken in the morning as a sedlitz powder, to remove the effect of the debauch. The offal of the streets and the wastings of coal gas reappear carefully preserved in the lady's smelling bottle, or are used by her to favor blanc magerie for her friends. All this thrift of material is an imitation of the economy of nature which allows no waste. Everything has its destined place in the process of the universe, in which there is not a blade of grass or even a microbe too much, if we possessed the knowledge to apply them to their fitting purposes.—Lord Lyon Playfair, in *North American Review*.

Work on this great project has stimulated local capitalists to improvements upon their property commensurate with the progress of the city. The old hydraulic canal, which for years has furnished power for two large flour mills and several paper and pulp mills on the bank of the river below the falls, is being enlarged. When completed it will furnish double the power now supplied. In anticipation of this two of the largest concerns have consolidated, and will erect a mill of double their present united capacity. Many other changes have been wrought in the village of falling water, due for the most part to the stimulus given the place by the work of preparation for the future development of our great water power. Two new hotels are in process of erection; the city is to have another daily paper; the biggest bank has been enlarged, and there is talk of forming another. The horse now is a thing of the past, streets are being graded, paved, and sewered, while real estate has taken a boom and prices have gone scurrying skyward. The whole aspect of the place has changed from a quaint country town, where every visitor was an object of curiosity into a bustling, thriving city, where every man has something to attend to, to mind his own business. All of these changes have been made during the past year, brought about by the building of the tunnel, of which as yet no practical test has been made. Prominent among the improvements for next year will be the building of dockage along the river and otherwise improving the harbor, so that lake craft can enter and discharge cargoes.

This May Cheapen Electricity.
Two French scientists have recently discovered an entirely new property of Faraday's disk, and as a result may be an important improvement in the dynamo. It will be remembered that Faraday discovered the principle of the dynamo when he attached one end of a wire to the center of a copper disk revolving between the poles of a magnet and the other end to the circumference. A current of electricity was thus produced on the wire, and this simple experiment resulted in the commercial dynamo.

Instead of the Faraday disk the French scientists employ thin plates of a certain constitution not yet made public. These plates are composed, in the direction of their thickness, of a very magnetic and highly conducting metal, and are so placed that the lines of force of the field of the magnet are perpendicular to this direction of thickness. Thus, it is said, the flow of induction which proceeds from the north pole of the magnet is divided into several sheets of parallel lines, which are very close together and which only traverse the magnetic portions of the bimetallic conductors.

The discoverers of this property constructed a small machine employing this principle, and it was found that the available energy of the machine increases at a rate which is practically proportional to the height of the conductors. The results achieved are remarkable, and are believed to indicate a valuable discovery of great commercial importance.—Philadelphia Record.

Opportunities Will Come.
Keep your eyes open for opportunities, and if you have any ability the time will come when you can display them. But do not worry, and fret, and fume over your work, do not believe that you were intended for better things; instead, make the best of the situation and go ahead. Encourage in yourself the habit of reading; do not fly from one book to another, but try to familiarize yourself with what is elevating and refining in literature. Good books are the best friends that you can have, and the

best use you can make of your spare moments will be to spend them with these safe and silent counsellors. Let industry, adaptability and cheerfulness characterize your work, and then somebody will say to you: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." And the joys prepared for you will be the feeling that you have tried your best, and that you have gotten that best of all things in return—a word of encouragement.

The Latest Sales of Wives.

In 1877 a wife was sold for £40, and what is more remarkable, the articles of sale were drawn up and signed at a solicitor's office, the money paid and the chattel handed over with all the gravity of law.

In the course of a county court case at Sheffield in May, 1881, a man named Moore stated that he was living with the wife of one of his friends, and that he had purchased her for a quart of beer. This transaction was brought under the notice of the Government by Mr. A. M. Sullivan, who requested the Home Secretary to take measures for preventing such reprehensible transactions. This had no effect, evidently, for since that time many sales have been recorded.

During the hearing of a School Board case in the course of 1881, at Ripon, a woman informed the bench that she had been bought for 25s., and had assumed the name of the purchaser.

At Alfreton, in 1882, a husband sold his wife for a glass of beer in a public house and the wife gladly deserted her legal lord. One cannot expect a wife for less than twopence halfpenny.

Two years after this a bricklayer at Peas-holme Green, Yorkshire, sold his wife for 1s. 6d., a "legal" document being drawn up to make the bargain binding on all sides.

In the Globe of May 6, 1887, there appeared an account of a well-to-do weaver at Burnley, who was charged with having deserted his wife and three children. He admitted the soft impeachment at once, but urged that, inasmuch as he had sold the whole family to another man before the alleged desertion, he be acquitted of all responsibility for their maintenance. It was nothing to him whether their purchaser provided for their wants; the law had better see to that. For himself he had duly repaid the three half-pence, the amount of the purchase money, and there his interest in the affair began and ended.

During 1889 a paragraph went the round of the papers to the effect that a man connected with a religious body in a village in the midland counties had disposed of his wife for the small sum of 1s.—All the Year Round.

The Conquests of Modern Science.

Surely I have established my thesis that dirt is only matter in a wrong place. Chemistry, like a good housewife, economizes every scrap. The horse shoe nails dropped in the streets are carefully collected, and reappear as swords and guns. The main ingredient of the ink with which I now write was probably once the broken hoop of an old beer barrel. The clippings of the travelling tinker are mixed with the parings of horses' hoofs and the worst kinds of woollen rags, and these are worked up into an exquisite blue die, which graces the dress of courtly dames. The dregs of port wine, carefully decanted by the toper, are taken in the morning as a sedlitz powder, to remove the effect of the debauch. The offal of the streets and the wastings of coal gas reappear carefully preserved in the lady's smelling bottle, or are used by her to favor blanc magerie for her friends. All this thrift of material is an imitation of the economy of nature which allows no waste. Everything has its destined place in the process of the universe, in which there is not a blade of grass or even a microbe too much, if we possessed the knowledge to apply them to their fitting purposes.—Lord Lyon Playfair, in *North American Review*.

Dining Cars.

Dining cars are generally run at a loss and are attached to trains simply as a matter of attraction, according to the Public Opinion. A steward, four cooks, and five waiters are attached to each car. The food costs from \$1,000 to \$1,500 a month. It costs from \$15,000 to \$22,000 a year to run these cars, exclusive of the wear and tear on the property and incidentals. In some places, and particularly in the South, sleepers are also run at a loss. A sleeping car leaving New York for Chicago is supplied with 120 sheets, 120 pillow slips, and 120 towels. The washing is done in different cities, and is given out in great quantities at the low rate of \$1 per 100 pieces. An equipment of linen, which last year, is purchased in amount of \$50,000 worth at a time. One company, for 700 cars uses every 30 days 2,400 dozen cakes of toilet soap, 1,200 dozen boxes of matches, 35 dozen hair brushes, 50 dozen whisks, 60 dozen combs, and a vast number of sponges and feather dusters. Porters receive from \$30 to \$50 dollars a month.

Wives of Literary Men.

Dante was married to a notorious scold, and when he was in exile he had no desire to see her, although she was the mother of his six children, says the *Chicago Herald*. Shakespeare lost the sympathies of the world by marrying Anne Hathaway, a woman eight years his senior, who was coarse and ignorant. Lord Bacon enjoyed but little domestic bliss and "loved not to be with his partner."

Milton was not great in the character of husband and father. We read of him that his first wife was disgusted with his gloomy house and soon ran away from him, and his daughters were left to grow up utterly neglected. Moliere was married to a wife who made him miserable, and Rousseau lived a most wretched life with his wife.

Dryden "married discord in a noble wife," and Addison sold himself to a cross-grained old countess, who made him pay dearly for all she gave him.

Steele, Sterne, Churchill, Coleridge, Byron and Shelley, were all married unhappily, and Bulwer and Dickens have been known by all the world as indifferent husbands.

Sir Walter Raleigh married a beautiful girl eighteen years his junior, and she adored him with increasing ardor to the very last.

Dr. Johnson's wife was old enough to be the mother of his, but "he continued to be under the illusion of the wedding day until she died at the age of 64," he being only 43.

Shelley's first marriage was unfortunate, but his second was a model of happiness.

A CURE FOR THE BLUES

A woman from one of Canada's most beautiful cities, living in a home of elegance and refinement, as she tells me, writes: "I try to be cheerful and happy, but somehow or other I cannot overcome constant spells of the 'blues.' What can I do?"

Now almost every nature, however sprightly, sometimes will drop into a minor key or a subdued mood that, in common parlance, is recognized as "the blues." There may be no adverse causes at work, but somehow the bells of the soul stop ringing, and you feel like sitting quiet, and you strike off fifty per cent. from all your worldly and spiritual prospects. In such depressed state no one can afford to sit for an hour. First of all, my sister, when "the blues" seize you, get up and go out of doors. Fresh air, and the faces of cheerful men, and pleasant women, and frolicsome children, will, in fifteen minutes, kill moping. The first moment your friend strikes the key-board of your soul it will ring music. A hen might as well try to ring populus Broadway to hatch out a feathery brood for a man to successfully brood over his ills in lively society. Do not go for relief among those who feel as badly as you do. Let not toothache or rheumatism and malaria go to see toothache, rheumatism and malaria. On one block in Brooklyn live a doctor, an undertaker and a clergyman. That is not the row for a nervous man to live on, lest he should need all three. Throw back all the shutters of your soul, and let the sunlight of genial faces shine in. Besides that, why should any woman sit with the blues? Shone upon by such stars as dot the Canadian sky, and breathed on by such air, and sung to by so many pleasant sounds, you ought not to be seen moping. Especially if light from the better world strikes its aurora through your night-sky ought you to be cheerful. You can afford to have a rough luncheon by the way if it is soon ended amid the banquets in white. Sailing toward such a blessed port, let us not have our flag at half-mast. Leave to those who take too much wine "the gloomy raven tapping at the chamber door," but as for you and I give us the robin-redbreast and the chaffinch. Let some one with a strong voice give out the long-metred doxology, and the whole world "praise God from whom all blessings flow.—Dr. Talmage."

The Catholics and the Public Schools.

There ought to be no quarrel between the Catholic church in the United States and our common school system. There is a misunderstanding; but this is easily cleared up, for where both parties are equally earnest and sincere in the patriotic purpose which prompts them to educate and in the religious conviction that would have our youth train up in the knowledge of Christianity and the practice of its noblest virtues, it is impossible that all grounds of misapprehension should not disappear. American love of freedom, of freedom of conscience before and above all is a too deep and too honest to wish to enforce a law, or to support a system, demonstrably hostile to the essentials of religious liberty. Our people have only to be shown that the law strikes at the dearest rights of the family, and confiscates to the profit of the state the most sacred and inalienable prerogatives of the parent, to conclude that such legislation can only be productive of evil, instead of promoting the public good. It is my convictions, therefore, that there is not in the United States a citizen, desirous at once of the progress of popular education and of the spread of enlightened religious sentiment among the masses, who does not, in every essential respect, agree with the Catholic church about the requisites of early education in the home and in the school. Let an educational congress, representing every religious denomination among us, meet during two or three years in succession and discuss the necessity of permeating education with the light and warmth of religion. We should, ere the end of the third year's friendly discussion, see our way towards a satisfactory settlement of this controversy.—Mgr. O'Reilly, in *North American Review*.

The Great Library of the United States.

When it is considered that the largest existing public library, that of the French government at Paris, contains as yet but 2,300,000 volumes, and that ample space exists in the edifice now rising on Capitol Hill for storing more than twice that number, it will be perceived that the wants of the future are well cared for. While nearly every government edifice appears to have been built only for a generation and its uses have long overgrown its limits, this one, through the far-sighted liberality of Congress, will provide room for the nation's books for nearly two centuries to come. The ultimate cost is limited to six millions of dollars, a sum somewhat less than half the cost of the Capitol or of the large building erected for the accommodation of the State, War, and Navy departments. The library building covers nearly the same space as each of these government buildings (about three acres), and is constructed of solid granite, with iron, brick, and marble interior. Its ample interior courts and numerous windows will render it the best-lighted and best-ventilated library of large proportions yet erected.—A. R. Stafford in the *November Forum*.

Success of the Woman Manager.

The world of the managing person is divided into those who allow themselves to be managed and those who object. Generally the managing person is a woman. Women are the born managers of the world. The woman who has this "executive ability" so-called masters the affairs of her own particular household, and then, says the *Boston Times*, she looks abroad for fresh worlds to conquer. She devotes herself to the business with energy. To those of her neighbors and friends who will allow themselves to be managed she is untiringly attentive. She studies each case with ardor and persistency, arranging circumstances publicly and privately, and giving advice by wholesale and retail. The woman with talent for management is not a boon to those weak creatures who cannot settle their own affairs and who are willing to take counsel and help from any outside parties willing to give it. It saves them troublesome and fatiguing thought. They are content to do the proper thing without controversy and are thankful for the instruction. But the people who object to being managed are a constant thorn in the side of the busy manager. She marvels that mysterious and short-sighted providence should have so blinded them to their own interests. Their obstinacy and opposition to their own best good are maddening and unaccountable. There is something wrong. The world should have been divided only into the managers and the managed. Providence has made some mistake.