CHAPTER XIV.

THE DEFENSE (CONTINUED.)

British Policy in the West Indies and Its Results in Connection with the Negro Population.

The following Friday evening I rose with paper in hand and said: "Mr. Speaker and gentlemen, as the Panamanian Republic is very young (only four years old), and as the speaker made great stress on the British superior policy toward the Negro race, I shall confine my remarks chiefly to the British West Indian Islands; and, as Jamaica is the most important of the British West Indian colonies in the Caribbean Sea, I shall take it as a model for the smaller islands.

BRITISH EMANCIPATION OF SLAVES.

"From your handbook of Jamaica's History I quote the following: 'The most prominent occurrence in Lord Manchester's administration was the beginning of the controversy between the British Parliament and the Jamaica Assembly on the subject of the Slave Code. In 1823 the Assembly was called upon to give effect to Mr. Canning's resolutions for the adoption of measures to ameliorate the condition of the slaves. The Assembly refused to entertain the recommendations, repudiating the right of the Imperial Parliament to interfere in the internal affairs of the island.

"In 1829 the Earl of Belmore became Governor, and he repeated the demand of the British Parliament for the amendment of the Slave Code. Some acts in this direction were passed, but on the British Government subsequently making proposals for the further amelioration of the slaves, the Assembly offered a strenuous, if not violent, resistance, the House ultimately declining to consider any measure not emanating from themselves. So intense, indeed, was the hostility of a majority of the Assembly and of the slave-owners to the Imperial Parliament, that they threatened to "transfer their
allegiance to the United States, or even to assert their independence after the manner of their continental neighbors.'

"The excitement produced by these proceedings soon extended to the slave population, and on December 28, 1831, a serious outbreak occurred. The mansion and sugar estate of Kensington, in the parish of Saint James, were first set on fire by the slaves, and by midnight sixteen incendiary fires were destroying the property in the neighborhood. The outbreak was quelled by the militia, but not before property to the value of £666,977 sterling (or $3,334,885) had been destroyed by the slaves.

"The British Government, in commiseration of the deplorable state to which the proprietors were reduced, extended to them a loan of £200,000 (or $1,000,000) to enable them to restore their plantations. The Earl of Mulgrave having succeeded to the Government in 1832, again pressed the Assembly to pass necessary laws to give effect to the resolutions of 1823 of Mr. Canning. But the Assembly resisted as before, and declared that, while admitting the supremacy of the sovereign, they could not admit 'the supremacy of one portion of His Majesty's subjects in the parent state over another portion of these subjects in Jamaica.'

"After this the Emancipation Act was passed by the Imperial Parliament, and was laid before the Jamaica Assembly October 18, 1833. They could not but adopt the decree, yet they entered strong protests against the Act in their journals. On the 1st of August, 1834, slavery was abolished and the apprenticeship system established. The number of slaves for whom compensation was paid by the British Government was 255,290.

"The amount of compensation awarded the slave-owners for their slaves by the British Government was £5,853,975 sterling (or $29,269,875). The apprenticeship system was subsequently abolished by an Act of Parliament in May, 1838, and on the first day of August of the same year absolute freedom was conferred on the whole negro population."

"Let me congratulate the British Government for its act of generosity and benevolence in paying such a large sum for the
freedom of the Jamaican slaves. This noble act on the part of the Government satisfied the slave-owners and established a feeling of amity and good-will between the former slaves and their former owners. Thus the freedman began his new career with the best wishes of those among whom he had to live. This was an advantage in the very start.

“That was not the case with the Anglo-American slave-owners. They did not receive a single cent for their many slaves—numbering more than four millions. This is one of the reasons why there is more race antipathy in America than is to be found in the British West Indies between the races. Then, again, it takes years for the feeling of difference to die out which would exist between slave-owners and slaves. This advantage of time you also have in the West Indies, because your freedom dates from 1833, with the agents of love, amity and friendship among the races, while in the United States it is only since 1865 the slaves were freed, with all the disadvantages of racial antipathy between whites and blacks, and also between whites and whites in the different sections of the country. Nevertheless, let us see what progress the Negro race has made without segregation under British rule, and where said race stands today with all the favorable advantages of longer freedom and no race antipathy.

EDUCATION.

“I must admit that the British West Indies have produced some very intellectual men who can rank among the foremost scholars of the day, irrespective of color. I know you have clever attorneys and some judges, and that you have had a Chief Justice, and a few native Attorney Generals. I know you have brilliant men in the medical profession, such as Dr. Edwards, whose record in the University of Scotland and one of the Canadian Universities made him an honor to his country and a prodigy of his race. I know you have some very successful medical practitioners, as Drs. McCatty, Branstof, etc. But how many schools have your great men founded for the good of the professions? Have you any medical or pharmaceutical schools? No! Have you any law schools? No!
"I know that negro youths without discrimination are allowed to enter Oxford and Cambridge, Edinburgh University or any other English schools they might select. But your native men never got the chance to teach in any of those schools, however qualified they might be to fill the position. The positions must be filled and the teaching done by white men. How, then, will your ability be demonstrated if you are together and all such positions have always been held by the Englishmen? Is there any room for you to develope? Is it not a fact that native young men who have received the Bachelor of Arts degree have to teach in the common schools for a living, as there is no room in the higher institutions of learning for them simply because such institutions are filled by Englishmen? What is the matter with your boy's knowledge? He received his B. A. degree at Cambridge with classmates of the Caucasian race, yet when he comes out into the world his English colleague gets the position as professor in one of your high schools or colleges, and your son must teach in the elementary schools. And if by chance that negro graduate is taken into the higher institution of learning as instructor, is he not retained only as "assistant"? Why, to be sure. In the United States the negro people are looking far ahead. Their horizon is not circumscribed in anything. They believe in segregation, because when the negro boy receives his degree of A. B., A. M., M. S., or B. S., Ph. D. or Ph. B., we have several openings in the High schools, Colleges or Universities awaiting him, where he might be employed to demonstrate his ability; and if such he possesses, there is the possibility of his becoming "president" of that institution, or be transferred to another in case of a vacancy by death or resignation. But he is never kept as an "assistant." Hence, we have many thousands of negro graduates who are instructors in our higher institutions of learning and drawing very good pay as salaries. We can show you an army of them, and you cannot show us a dozen. The reason is too clear for anyone to pretend that it cannot be understood. Why, in the country of racial segregation the colored boy strives to reach the top, because he knows honor and good salary await him. In your islands
without separation of the races, all the important places belong
to the white man, and the negro boy says, "What is the use
of denying myself and studying for the B. A. degree if I have
to teach an elementary school afterwards at £25 to £60 per
annum?"

Is it not the same state of affairs in your churches? As a
general rule have not native preachers to accept the smallest
charges, while the white men hold all the largest and
most influential? Our segregation in the United States
placed the colored people in possession of about 20,000 church
edifices of all size and shape, situated in the most fashionable
centers of the various cities and towns, as well as in the coun-
try. Into these churches none but the sons of Ham can be
pastors. It is their heritage. Hence, if the negro preacher
has the ability he can be called from a small church in the
savannah of Texas at a small salary to another in Chicago or
New York, Boston or Philadelphia, at a decent annual salary.
And the colored people's churches are as spacious as the white
people's churches, because most of the colored churches for-
merly belonged to white congregations, which they sold to the
colored people. Have you any church which you can really
call your own, that is not in some Union whose president is a
white man? How many Old Folks' homes, orphanages,
banks, high schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, sanitar-
riums, medical colleges, pharmaceutical schools, law schools,
thological institutions have you? What inventions have you
perfeeted and patented? What industrial progress have you
made? What has the negro population under British rule to
show to the world they have done during nearly a century of
freedom?

I have made special inquiries concerning these points, and
I am sorry to say, my friends, that even your intelligent men
seemed contented while things drag on just as the English-
man directs. What he thinks and says should be done is done.
Hence, on the whole, the negro race under British rule with-
out segregation has done practically nothing for itself, but
has fallen into a state of inertia desuetude. Without a single
race leader or union, disorganization causes a lax condition of
race unity which is sad and lamentable. But you speak about American prejudice! In the States race prejudice is sensible, and produces good results. In the West Indies among the negro race itself prejudice is greater under British rule than anywhere else in the world. The shrewd European politician, to keep the race apart that it be more easily managed, has successfully taught all the negroes to look up to the Anglo-Saxon, but down on his own race according to the shade of the skin. This teaching was practised probably from the fact that the negro population was larger, and if they were united and educated along racial lines, they could have everything their way and the white brother would be out of it. Hence, if there are twelve shades of negroes in the British and French West Indies, there will also be a dozen sections, each looking down upon the other according to the darker hue of the skin, and the prejudice in this way is greater than is to be found between the white and black races. This condition is worse in some of the islands than in others. It is the same principle that has divided Hayti into two small republics, a fact which made the Haytians much weaker today than they otherwise would be. Was this scheme started intentionally to weaken the negro race? The Caucasian is made stronger because among the colored people there is no unity, and, consequently, there can be no strength.

Has the colored race forgotten what the scripture says in Timothy v. 8? The indifference of the race is so great that the Caucasian does just what he thinks best; and thus one writer observed and wrote: "The West Indian Negro who fraternizes, or with whom the white man sometimes affects to fraternize, and who, by this seeming condescension, fancies himself transformed into a full-blown Anglo-Saxon—an idea which robs him of a just conception of his individuality, hampers the progress of his people, and lends countenance to the belief in the superiority of the white skin." With us in the United States, every negro, whether he is as white as snow or black as tar, considers himself one of the race, and always unite for the betterment and uplift of his race, hence, there we are not divided, but united as one. The same observer and
writer quoted above continues: "The Afro-Americans, more educated and progressive, realize their manhood and equality, and glory in the fact that they are what they are, so far as color is concerned. In the American Negroes does not exist that silly and slave-engendered aspiration to change their epidermis. They know whence they come, and feel that they stand on the same manly footing as their white brothers, capable of the same possibilities if given equal opportunities. With them segregation has brought about a unity, which would otherwise be impossible. The dominant idea is to build up for themselves those necessities of life, which mark the aspiration of civilized and progressive people. Their number of leagues, associations, clubs, mutual organizations, commercial enterprises and other combinations of various descriptions, having for their object the moral, social, intellectual and material progress of the race is simply astounding. The result of this unity is, that the thousands of dollars, which once found their way in the pockets of the white people, now go into their own coffers. * * * To those of us whose eyes are not closed to the condition of things here in the West Indies, it is evident that we are considerably behind our Afro-American brothers. And this unfortunate state of things will continue as long as we cling to the slavish idea that the white man must lead and we follow."

The above quotation was made from the pen of one of your own men. You complain of the ill-treatment given the West Indian laborers at the Canal Zone by white Americans. Yet you are forced to come and accept said treatment and such little wages that no colored person would work for in the States, to say nothing of leaving their homes to go abroad to work for such pittance. Your sad condition in the British West Indies, therefore, makes it possible for the white southerner to humiliate you and thus distract from the high standard your Anglo-American brother has set up for the protection of the race. Hence today the British West Indian Negroes have found themselves "between the devil and the deep sea." The Englishman has nothing to give him to do for a living, and the Anglo-Americans who have it to give says:
"These are not our negroes and we are not bound to look out for their interest. They are aliens and we will get all we can out of them for as small wages as possible."

My friends, I hope your eyes will be opened some day to see as you should the awful plight your preferred British policy has placed you in. You prefer it for no other reason than that the shrewd Englishman does not tell you that you are a "Negro," and as he sometimes shakes your hand and smiles with you, at the same time leaves you poorer or worse off, so far as material things are concerned, each time he comes in contact with you, you are contented.

The sad state of affairs among you can be also seen from the following communication sent to one of your newspapers:

"Dear Sir:

"Please allow me space in your columns to make a few remarks relative to the editorial article which appeared in the Jamaica Guardian, October 3, 1908, under the caption, 'A Story and Its Morals.'

"I take this position because I am interested in that land and its people, and also acquainted with the lady, Mrs. F—, and her girl, Edith W—, who it is alleged deposited twenty-five shillings in the Island Treasury April last in conformity to the law. In your article it is made clear that since the recent law became operative, each Jamaican going to the Isthmus is required to deposit twenty-five shillings with the Government, and on returning home, upon presentation of the receipt for the deposit, together with the permit, which must be endorsed by a member of the constabulary as evidence of identification, the money deposited is refunded to its owner.

"Should not this routine afford ample safeguard for the money deposited, and also sufficient obstacle for the oppressed people who are striving to better their condition? Do those who legislate such laws really know or ever think of the woes, trials, hardships, vexations their countrymen suffer and endure abroad by working for foreign nations who have no interest in them? Whose pen can well depict or tongue tell the indignity heaped upon West Indians who are endeavoring to earn
a livelihood on foreign soil? But can anyone blame ambitious people for seeking bread and subsistence abroad, since their own country fails to provide them employment? And even when such employment is secured, the worker practically receives no pay for wages? Should not these islanders be encouraged for their heroic effort and struggle in Central America and the Isthmus to avert the poverty that confronts them at home?

"But, in addition to the foregoing impediment which their own government placed in the pathway of the natives, your paper states that, 'Instructions were issued about a fortnight ago to the Island Treasurer not to refund any depositor's money until an inspector's identification of the depositor was secured.' It must be remembered that this 'inspector' was not required to notice or photograph the depositor when the deposit was made. Naturally, of course, the 'inspector' would not know the depositor, and, consequently, could not identify him, but would pass him along from one official to another. Thus, the native returning home, would soon become tired and weary of the bother and delay caused by this 'pass-'em-on' method, and fearful of the expense of board and lodging and also the loss of much precious time in the vain effort to be identified, leave the money in disgust in the Treasury and go home, never again to receive it.

"But should not these clever foreign schemers be satisfied with the money which reverts to the Government from natives who have died abroad and others who never returned home? Why, then, resort to such trickery to leach those who return? What a neat scheme to filch money from the poor! What a shameful and outrageous Modus Operandi under guise of official protection! But do you say it is only laborers to be victimized that way, then why such ado? From personal experience in the most progressive countries, I declare beyond successful contradiction, that The Masses Of Every Well-Managed Government Constitute The Most Essential Nucleus Of The Country's Prosperity. Can you deny it? Look at the care exercised by unions to ensure protection to all classes of laborers in the United States and its consequent results!
"The merchants, lawyers, doctors, preachers, editors and other vocations prosper as the result of good wages and protection to the laboring class. That class of the population has no cause for going elsewhere to seek employment. Show me a country where the laboring class is oppressed, downtrodden, underpaid and overlooked, and I will show you a country that does not worth its name, but abounds in poverty and all its concomitant evils. And does not a philosopher say, 'Poverty is worse than disease?'

"But, remember, that the imposed injustice on the returning laborers is not confined to one class of Jamaicans as some erroneously suppose. See the truth in the following Latin quotation:

*Ex uno disce omnes* As It Is For One, So It Is For All.

"But the question naturally arises, who issued the instruction to the Island Treasurer that no money was to be returned to the depositor until such was identified by an 'inspector'? If such instruction was issued by the Governor or any other foreign official, may not the following questions be fittingly asked at this time? Who will answer them?

1. When do Jamaicans expect to rise above accepting the condition imposed by that famous Paramount Importance Clause, which invests the Governor with practically absolute ruling power, and enables him ad libitum to do what he desires, in spite of the Legislative Council pompously existing as a body representing the people? Is the council only a figure-head?

2. Do these islanders intend to forever tolerate such injustice and at the same time remain members in good standing of the Dumb Driven Cattle and Folly Club? How long do they intend to allow all the lucrative positions in their Island home to be held by foreigners, thereby annually depleting their country and sending its wealth abroad across the Atlantic? Can any country ever rise where the bulk of its tax and other revenue is paid in salaries to outsiders and carried away instead of being utilized at home for the development of the resources of the country whence it is derived?
3. When will Jamaicans, like intelligent Americans, learn to favor and protect their own people by enacting laws to abolish peonage by which their countrymen are carried to Central America and Coolies are held in semi-slavery as laborers? When do they intend to enact sensible laws to prevent Chinese, Coolies and Assyrian importation either as pedlers, who will encroach on the native merchants, or as laborers, who must of necessity snatch bread from the mouths of that class of laborers?

4. When will Jamaicans realize that the poverty, stringency and continued depression of their country are due principally to the lack of industrial enterprises, native organizations, corporate bodies to develop home resources, good pay for labor, better pay for natives and less pay for the Englishman who remains temporarily among them?

5. When will Jamaicans know that to maintain a high standard of fitness and efficiency for office, the Merit System should be the only criterion, and Civil Service the only rule to ascertain the fitness; that favorism versus merit for filling government offices breeds and harbors an unhealthy state of intellectual weakness and incompetency, with certain inevitable reaction? And that it is a positive downward step for any country to abolish its Civil Service system and substitute therefor partisanship and favorism?

6. When will these Islanders awake from their long slumber and learn that unless insane, or in some way deranged, a healthy mother is the best nurse for her offspring? A Country For Its Natives, like a mother is for her child, constitutes the most important and essential principle, which, when established and maintained, produces continued and increased prosperity? Since England is for Englishmen, America for Americans, Hayti for Haytians, Cuba for Cubans, why then should not there be a “Jamaica For Jamaicans?” But the hope and expectation of its misguided natives to the contrary, notwithstanding, will never be realized in seeing the “Promise Land of industrial milk and honey” in their island home through the medium of highly paid foreign
British officials. For if the X-ray of truth be turned on the whole situation, what will Jamaica really be if American trade, capital and industry were taken out of her?

Hence, Jamaica needs an Evangelist to preach the gospel of home industry, native self-reliance, unity and freedom from oppression; she needs a Moses to deliver her pilched, under-paid and over-taxed people; she needs a qualified physician to heal her chronic, bleeding and sloughing wounds, and inject new life-blood into her depleted and withered veins and arteries; she needs a chemist to prepare wholesome food for her indigent leaders that they might be the better able to trace effects to their causes and devise measures to remedy existing wrongs; she needs an ocular surgeon to remove the political scales which have so long obstructed the visions of her sons and caused them to be indifferent to their rights. Oh, islanders, awake! Shake off the dust of indifference and sing the new song—"Jamaica For Jamaica!"

Mr. Speaker and friends, if I hurt your feelings and touched your pride, I ask your pardon; but in my defense I could not overlook these facts and conditions I referred to. But to return to the subject of the colored race under the Anglo-Americans and British respectively, let me say, it was a blessing when the Anglo-Americans taught their negro fellow-citizens to work, and also the fact that labor has its dignity. They have been taught to swim early, and they are neither afraid nor ashamed to work. The odds against which the Afro-Americans wrestled did nothing but develop their strength.

But does not the case of the returning laborers to their island home show that even the dominant race in the British West Indies is not up to its former standard? And was it not General Baden-Powel, an Englishman, who, in his work on Matabele Campaign, said: "The Negro must be governed with a hand of iron, and it is necessary at times to remove the glove"? You are indeed welcome to all your preferred British policy; but we thank God for the generous and liberal Anglo-Americans, through whose assistance the Afro-American people have succeeded beyond all comparison.
But the entire colored race, whether residing under the Anglo-American, British, or any other flag on the Western Hemisphere, whose ancestors were brought from Africa under similar circumstances, should unite in the sentiment of the following Hamitic Prayer, which has a verse to every letter of the alphabet indicative of the thought for the good and best welfare of the whole Negro race throughout the world:

ALPHABETICAL HAMITIC PRAYER.

Arrange with us, Great God,
Against all races' rod;
And may Thy presence prove
All evils to remove;
And this we pray, "Be Thou our stay;"
Till earth and heaven pass away.

Beside us day and night
Bend Thy protecting light,
Back like in ages past,
Before the Egyptian Blast;
Bind us in love and unity
Till earth and heaven pass away.

Come near us when we call,
Come lift us from our fall;
Cancel our vice and sin,
Cause our just cause to win;
Come guide our feet that we can't stray
Till earth and heaven pass away.

Master, how dark the night!
May morning bring us light?
Many long years may pass,
Morning will come at last;
Must we not for it hope and pray
Till earth and heaven pass away?

Oh! Omnipotent King,
Over us spread Thy wing;
Ope wide Thy chastening Seal,
On those against us strive;
Oh, teach our race Thy righteous will,
Till earth and heaven pass away.

* * *

Zion—that land above,
Zion o'erflowed with love,
Zounds there are all unknown,
Zealous each with his crown;
Zion, we hope for justice there
When earth and heaven pass away.
Castleton Gardens, Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies.
CHAPTER XV.
WOMAN: HER PLATFORM, PROTECTION AND TREATMENT.

"It appears, doctor, as if you wish people to run me out of Colon," said a young editor, as he seated himself on a veranda chair, smiling.

"What do you mean?" I asked earnestly.

"Well, my dear sir," he said seriously, "it is a fact that I asked you to prepare me an article on some subject for my paper, and you have kindly written it on the subject of woman; but I dare not publish the article you have prepared, because both writer and publisher would be cursed from Dan to Beer-sheba, and probably hissed or stoned if we venture on the street."

"Why, is there anything derogatory in the article that would provoke such treatment of us?" I querrated.

"Yes, in a general sense, I should say it is derogatory in its tone. You see, people of all classes live here in concubinage. They would say the article was especially aimed at them. When I read your article to my friend last night, he said to me, 'If you know what is good for you, I would advise you not to publish that stuff. Those pretentious Americans make me tired. What have they to do with the private life of anybody? They are here to dig the dirt of the Canal. What have they to do with our morals? Yes, I understand that the Manager of the Panama Railroad dismissed a young man from a good job because a young woman reported that the fellow wronged her, then forsook her. Yes, and the young fellow is "fired" without notice or warning. What do you call an act like that?" I told him that it was a pretty bad case, but I did not think it was the business of anyone outside of the two concerned."
"For my part," said I to the editor, "I think the Railroad Manager is to be congratulated for teaching that most essential lesson to a people who sadly need it. And I sincerely hope the heads of the various Departments here under the United States Government will 'fire' every man who does an act of that kind, and also blackball him, so as to prevent him being re-employed anywhere on the Canal."

"If you take my advice, doctor," said the editor, "you would not allow these people in Colon to hear you say so. People here have been accustomed to live as they choose. Of course, on the Canal Zone they have to keep mighty straight, as no one is allowed to live there in concubinage. There the law is so strict on that subject that the authorities often sent detectives to the people's houses; and if an unmarried pair be found in the same house, they are forced to marry then and there, or quit off the Zone Territory. The folks do not relish it at all, but as they have no alternative but to marry or quit, they usually get married. A striking example of the folly was that of a widow, who lived in the same house with her son, and because they could not produce a marriage certificate, they had a hard and stiff time from being forced to marry. What do you think about that? I think it went a little too far. But why all such ado? Have they not the same thing, if not worse, in the Southern States of America? Haven't I heard that white and colored persons remain together without legal molestation, and have children, but the moment they dare to get married and try to lead a better life, they are arrested and placed in prison for breaking some statute law? Isn't that worse than our simple concubinage? Canal diggers should not be moral reformers. That part of the work should be left for others to do."

"It might have been a trying experience for the poor widow," I said, "but the effort to rid American territory of the sin of concubinage is a righteous one, and should be commended. It teaches the groundwork principle of morality; and to be frank in the matter, that 'Forced To Marry System' introduced here in the Canal Zone is the best and only remedy for these long-neglected Central American countries, and West
Indian Islands, where women are not protected at all; where they can be wronged without redress, and where the law seemed to favor men only.

"Respecting what you said of certain Southern States practicing a worse form of the same grievance, which you are forced here to remedy, I am not well informed where people would be imprisoned to marry who were living together, simply on account of color. But if such condition exists, the pulpit, and press, and righteous members of the community should wage a relentless war against it until such evil is abolished. I am aware that on account of color many wrongs are winked at in the Southern States, even by the pulpit, and I must say, as great as the United States is considered abroad, the race antipathy, especially of the South, has produced causes which leave dark blots on the fair and good name of a great country. But I hope someone will root out the evil there as the American authorities are trying to do here."

"But your divorce evil in America is not confined to any section of the country! Why don't they remedy that? Bosh! I think they are not sincere in this 'forced marriage business' on the Zone, else they would set the proper example by first thoroughly cleansing their own home," said the editor.

"Well, my good fellow," I answered, "I believe that twenty cases of divorces show a very much higher state of morality than one case of concubinage. In the States, it is true, we have numerous divorces, but let it be remembered that people are not allowed to live in concubinage there. If such exists, it is on the sly, and I as an individual am not aware of its whereabouts. Well, I am sorry you are afraid to publish the article, as it took me quite a little while to prepare; but since it will hurt and hold you up to ridicule, then I have no criticism to offer. But I wonder why people try to appear better than they really are? And why should they try to dodge the truth?"

"I am not exactly opposing your argument," said the editor, "but as the article contains objectionable features, I will have to refrain from publishing it just at this time." The following is the article:
WOMAN:
HER PLATFORM, PROTECTION AND TREATMENT.

BY
D. NEWTON EMANUEL CAMPBELL, M. D.

WOMAN is the most superb product of the Creator's handiwork on earth. She was not made from the "dust of the ground" as man was. The ingredients which enter woman's construction and constitute her framework were not raw materials when taken, as those used in Adam's framework.

The first man became a "living soul" with two component parts; first, the framework of purely clay material; and second, the infusion of the Creator's breath. It was from this living man, an already finished and complete compound, a rib was taken to form the framework of woman's body. Is it not feasible and logical, therefore, to conclude, even without biblical support, or any authentic evidence, that an additional breath of the Creator was infused into woman's framework before she became a living soul? Could anyone contend that it was not so?

This being the case, then it is clear and indisputable that woman's body consists, in a sense, of three parts; first, the original clay in Adam's formation; second, the Creator's breath which already had permeated the original clay and infused life into Adam; third, the additional breath of the Creator whereby woman's framework became a living soul. The two latter essences might have fused into one, but it remains vividly clear that woman's body contained more of the Eternal essence than that of man. Of course, that would make her a higher moral being than her brother. And is she not, indeed, more susceptible than man to discern right and shun wrong? I will prove this in her acts to you.

HER PLATFORM.

Investigations have long ago established the fact that woman's anatomy, bulk for bulk, contains less organic and mineral substances than that of man. Hence, she usually has
smaller structures, less strength, less brain matter, and consequently less mentality and reasoning power than man. But who will contradict the fact that woman possesses higher morality than man? To my mind this is an axiom, though probably not universally known and accepted. But how could it be otherwise, if she received double breath infusion from the Creator, while man received only one?

Statistics show that woman placed in positions of trust has always been found faithful. Seldom if at all has she forged notes. She is not a bank defaulter with a host of policemen and detectives seeking her whereabouts, and chasing her from city to city. She is not a speculator in stock, races and pugilistic fights with other people's money intrusted to her care.

Does she always wreck banks and insurance companies, then resign to evade detection and arrest? Isn't it a fact that woman is rarely a murderer, gambler, drunkard, bigamist or imposter? I do admit that through human depravity she can, like her brother, descend to the lowest level and drink the dregs from the cup of vice, yet even at the bottom of the pit of degradation, her conscience will be found to be battling fiercely against the monster that dragged her there. She will make efforts to redeem herself and start again toward the goal of right. She will neither be happy nor contented down in that pit of debasement. The forces of evil might prevail against her, and leave her bruised and bleeding, but her desire and effort will be to rise and live in the limelight of reason and conscience.

A little careful scrutiny will disclose the fact that more than 95 per cent. of the evil suggestions which resulted in the misconduct or improper behavior on woman's part originated in man. Is not this statement true? Why, then, do you place the blame on her? Why oppress her with the greater part of life's sinful burden? Why do you wrong her without suitable redress? Why do you make laws oppressive to her, and keep those laws on the statute books without repealing them?

As she constitutes the flower of society, the backbone of the church, the cream of every community, the chief object of love and friendship, the center of affinity and attraction in the
home and the nursery of future generations, then it should be the popular and universal consensus of opinion that woman should be properly protected at any cost. Is it not high time that men in the tropics and islands of the seas should awake to the realization of woman’s value and paramount importance? I have never seen any place where there is such little regard and respect for woman as here in Colon. Wake up, ye dozing and snoring sluggards! Do you call yourselves men? If so, the important issue of woman’s protection demands immediate attention! Wake up and sleep no longer over this question.

But while the men have a duty to perform, every woman should assist the men by adopting the following principles as her platform, thereby raising high the moral standard:

1. Every woman should early learn this most important rule as guide of her life—Always Be The Wife Before Becoming The Mother. Never be the mother first, then the wife afterward. Teach this principle to your daughters!

2. Every woman should learn to wear a pleasing smile. Remember that it enhances grace and beauty.

3. Every woman should be taught early to work, and also to recognize the dignity and importance of labor and of being independent. She should know household duties, and be thoroughly familiar with the methods of domestic economy. She should never forget that it is ten times more dignified and honorable to do any sort of druggery work for a living than to be richly or gorgeously attired as the CONCUBINE of any man, whoever he may be.

4. Woman’s health is of the most important national asset. She should strive to be healthy, neat and tidy. Beauty is said to be “skin deep,” but “Cleanliness Is Next To Godliness.” This cleanliness is never secured by perfume, powders and cosmetics, but by plenty of soap and the free use of water. A woman should be clean in dress, body and mind. Her tongue should be a perfect stranger to bad and profane language; and she should always so
demean herself that she might receive the respect to which she is entitled. She should strive to be always the "sweet angel" in every community. Oh, lovely woman! hold high your head!

HER PROTECTION.

In this, the dawn of the 20th century, a NEW MAGNA CHARTA is an essential need in every community for woman’s proper protection, if the world is to advance to the high and lofty plane to which she now seems destined. Every tribe, race and nation should agree on the terms of a High Tariff Treaty for the best legal and moral protection of womanhood.

Well, you might ask how should this be done? I cannot say exactly how the law should be enforced, or its routine be carried out. But some law to this effect should be enacted. My readers will pardon me for referring to the United States of America as the country where woman is better protected, and consequently more highly respected, than in any other country. Do you ask how she is protected there? Well, I will tell you.

Be the girl high or low, rich or poor, old or young, white or colored, the man who seduces and ruins her runs the perilous risk of losing his life, or either marrying her upon her complaint, or be sentenced to a long term of imprisonment, as penalty for his offence. But she can never be wronged, and her seducer go free as here, unless he never stops running. And in many instances, after the ruined daughter lodges her complaint, if the father or brother gets to the seducer before the police arrests him, then something awful usually happens, which ends in great injury or the funeral of the seducer.

I think I hear you say that such drastic measures should never be inflicted upon a man who seduces a young woman, then leaves and forsakes her with her burden of shame! Ah! but it serves as warning to others! Does it not hold up the evil as one to be shunned? And if the ruined daughter happens to be of tender years, under the "age of consent" and her seducer is arrested and convicted, he is usually sentenced by
the court to be hung. Seldom have mitigating circumstances prevented the extreme penalty of death in case of this kind.

No man in official position, drawing pay from the United States Government, could act unseemly toward a woman. If so, he would be tried, and if convicted, he would be dismissed from the service for "conduct unbecoming an officer or a gentleman." Reparation is usually made whenever a woman is wronged under the United States flag regardless of whom the offender might be. And if anyone uses vulgar or profane language there in the presence of women and children, such an one is arrested and dealt with according to law. Do you say such laws are too strict?

Let me assure you whatever you might think to the contrary, that strict laws for woman's protection produce a moral, healthy and wholesome growth in any community. Boys and men learn soon to behave themselves with propriety, or suffer the serious consequences that follow any misconduct of that kind on their part.

On the contrary, wherever lax and inadequate laws exist for woman's proper protection, an unhealthy and morally low social condition must of necessity exist. And may God have mercy on the place and society where the illegitimate husband plays the gentleman, and his unfortunate victim act the part of the lady; where the illegitimate birthrate far exceeds that of children born in wedlock; where the disease of concubinage scatters its deadly germs unchecked by some legal antiseptics, and where diseased concubinants are called and considered "decent" people. For what social, legal or moral right has this class of people to call themselves "decent"? Has 2,000 years of social and religious instruction gone for naught?

So far as I know, it would be next to impossible for a couple living in concubinage to secure lodging in any hotel or private family of standing, or even rent a house in most of the States. Such people are shunned, spurned, and sometimes stoned out of the community. They are never considered as "decent" there. That is the way woman in that particular is treated in Uncle Sam's territory, and I hope this protection will follow the Stars and Stripes wherever she floats in the breeze.
Preachers and others interested in this topic of woman's protection should everywhere disrobe themselves of their former garb of narrowism and indifference for this particular good. They should interest themselves in political matters until from every precinct and legislative district no other but the very highest type of moral men will be selected for the legislature to enact and amend laws for the uplift and proper safeguard of the people in general, but for women in particular.

A distinguished statesman said: "A good and capable government is that which makes it easy for its people to do right, but difficult for them to do wrong." And I think the time has come when every lax government, where womanhood is unprotected, should voluntarily pull down its flag and ask a more capable nation to assume control. This is no age to hide weakness by pretense. Any progressive and enlightened people should look with disdain upon a high illegitimate birthrate in their midst; but parents and nation alike should be ashamed of it, and strive to improve and protect womanhood.

Great things are expected of this young Panamanian Republic. And it is to be hoped that her leaders and officers will imitate her mighty neighbor in good work and advocate and initiate needed reforms for woman's protection, and disallow any part of her territory to be used for concubinants, or as harbor where womanhood shall be abused or degraded. We congratulate the American officers, who positively disallowed concubinage on the Canal Zone territory, and we trust this example will be a moral lesson for delinquent governments in Central America and those West Indian Islands where this evil is prevalent.

That this noble lesson be taught more effectively, we hope the heads of the various departments of the United States Government operating on the Zone, and other firms employing help, would instantly dismiss from their employment any man who wrongs a poor girl, then forsakes and leaves her to struggle alone with the burden of sorrow and shame. I do not think the money of the United States should be used in paying any man as wages whose life in the community is that
of debasing womanhood, whether that man resides in Panama or anywhere else, or is the citizen, subject or object of any known government.

The Pope of Rome declared that after studying the distinctive traits of the various nations, he has found that "the Americans" have the gift of tact unknown to other nationalities. May not the officers' "gift of tact" on the Zone be used to uplift and promote womanhood?

HER TREATMENT.

A famous observer and writer of human nature said: "I have found, with few exceptions, that woman can be persuaded by proper treatment to do right always, and even worship the object of her love and affection. I let my wife believe that she is the sweetest and finest angel on earth; that she is almost incapable of doing wilful wrong; that she has one of the biggest and greatest hearts among women; that I would at any time entrust my life to her care, and imperil it to save hers; that I was really fortunate to secure her as my wife; that she should have been born a princess, but I really thank God she was not, as some unworthy man in high official life, or some worthless prince would have married her instead of me. I always spoke kindly to her, and because she likes roses, I gave her occasionally a bunch of flowers; consulted her in matters of importance, and found that her suggestions were valuable and often indispensable. What do you think was the result? My wife honors, reverences and fairly worships me in return."

I believe what the above writer said, though it contains a taint of flattery. I think every man should be a manly man and show his natural colors. Yes, a true man should be kind and gentle to his wife and polite to everybody. Flattery, to my mind, should never be recommended, but from experience I agree with what is said above, as a little sprinkling of it does no harm, but rather a deal of good in dealing with the "queen of the home." In addition to it, should there not be a little playful fondling? And an occasional surprise in little gifts, praise for whatever the wife does well, an agreeable look and pleasant smile will help in bringing out the best quality that
is in a woman. A true man should see that only the smallest portion of his troubles falls upon his wife.

A woman, as a general rule, will honor and respect the man in return who loves and esteems her above all others, because "love wins love." There is one very important point to bear in mind in dealing with this subject. If a horseman feeds and cares for his mare while she is in fold, and refuses to work her in order to get a good colt, or adopts similar methods to obtain the best offspring in other dumb animals, how much more should the proper care be taken of a wife, to obtain a good specimen and perpetuate the best specie of the human family?

Should not the would-be mother then be exempted from hard work, druggery and toil? Should she not be free as much as possible from care, worry, sorrow, anxiety, perplexity and weighty responsibility? Should she not receive extra care, kindness, attention, thoughtfulness and such other considerations as would enhance her delight and happiness? Is this the proper time for a poor woman to be cast off, starved, abused, forsaken and left to sigh alone, weep alone, grieve alone, while her seducer walks away and plays the "gentleman"? What do you think of such a man? Are you opposed, then, to proper protective laws for woman? I hear you say, No! no!! Do not forget, then, the following rules, which every man should strive to observe:

1. Every man should see his own daughter, wife, sister and mother in other men's daughters, wives, sisters and mothers, and exercise the same safeguard for the latter protection as he would like for others to treat his. This is the criterion of conduct that constitutes a true GENTLEMAN.

2. Let it be remembered that woman develops the nucleus, delivers and cares for the young, nutrifies the infant and affords the greatest pleasure to man; and as such she should not be wronged. Is it not justice that severe punishment should be meted out to the man who degrades her?
3. Indecent and profane language should never be used in the presence of a woman; and the man who hits and beats her should in return be well lashed by law. The man who begets children then forsakes them for the mother alone to struggle and care for them, then uses his earnings for rum, whisky, cocktail or other drinks, while his children are in want and misery, should be whipped in a public square for his cruel and heartless offense.

4. “Each girl is a princess, each woman is queen. Your duty to them you should know.”
The chief sanitary officer through whose skill the Canal Zone is freed from the mosquito pest and converted into a health resort. His inestimable service facilitates the canal work and renders possible the completion of the stupendous task. Should not a suitable monument be erected at some public place on the Canal Zone to commemorate his undying fame? Why wait till a man is dead to cover his casket and hide it from view with profusions of wreaths and flowers? Why not honor his name and give him a bunch of roses while he lives that he might enjoy it? Let the Nation do to the Panama Canal scientists what was done for Admiral Dewey for annihilating the Spanish fleet in Manila Bay, because their achievements deserve recognition.
CHAPTER XVI.

THE UNITED STATES OFFER MADE TO THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA.

Prior to the secession of Panama the United States of America offered to purchase the Canal Zone territory from the Republic of Colombia, for the purpose of digging a canal, by the following act of Congress:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States is hereby authorized to acquire, for and on behalf of the United States, at a cost not exceeding forty millions of dollars, the rights, privileges, franchises, concessions, grants of land, right of way, unfinished work, plants and other property, real, personal and mixed, of every name and nature, owned by the New Panama Canal Company, of France, on the Isthmus of Panama, and all its maps, plans, drawings, records on the Isthmus of Panama and in Paris, including all the capital stock, not less, however, than sixty-eight thousand eight hundred and sixty-three shares of the Panama Railroad Company, owned by or held for the use of said Canal Company, provided a satisfactory title to all of said property can be obtained.

"Sec. 2. That the President is hereby authorized to acquire from the Republic of Colombia, for and on behalf of the United States, upon such terms as he may deem reasonable, perpetual control of a strip of land, the territory of the Republic of Colombia, not less than six miles in width, extending from the Caribbean Sea to the Pacific Ocean, and the right to use and dispose of the waters thereon, and to excavate, construct, and to perpetually maintain, operate and protect thereon a canal of such depth and capacity as will afford convenient passage of ships of the greatest tonnage and draft now in use, from the Caribbean Sea to the Pacific Ocean, which control shall include the right to per-
petually maintain and operate the Panama Railroad, if the ownership thereof, or a controlling interest therein, shall have been acquired by the United States, and also jurisdiction over said strip, and the ports at the end thereof, to make such police and sanitary rules and regulations as shall be necessary to preserve order and preserve the public health thereon, and to establish such judicial tribunals as may be agreed upon thereon as may be necessary to enforce such rules and regulations. The President may acquire such additional territory and rights from Colombia as in his judgment will facilitate the general purpose hereof.

"Sec. 3. That when the President shall have arranged to secure a satisfactory title to the property of the New Panama Canal Company, as provided in section (1) hereof, and shall have obtained by treaty control of the necessary territory from the Republic of Colombia as provided in section (2) hereof, he is authorized to pay for the property of the New Panama Canal Company forty millions of dollars, and to the Republic of Colombia such sum as shall have been agreed upon, and a sum sufficient for both said purposes is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be paid on warrant or warrants drawn by the President.

"The President shall then, through the Isthmian Canal Commission, hereinafter authorized, cause to be excavated, constructed and completed, utilizing to that end, as far as practicable, the work heretofore done by the New Panama Canal Company, of France, and its predecessor company, a ship canal from the Caribbean Sea to the Pacific Ocean. Such canal shall be of sufficient capacity and depth as shall afford convenient passage for vessels of the largest tonnage and greatest draft now in use, and such as may be reasonably anticipated, and shall be supplied with all necessary locks and other appliances to meet the necessities of vessels passing through the same from ocean to ocean; and he shall also cause to be constructed such safe and commodious harbors at the termini of said canal, and make such provisions for defense as may be necessary for the safety and
protection of said canal and harbors; that the President is authorized for the purposes aforesaid to employ such persons as he may deem necessary, and to fix their compensation.

"Sec. 4. That should the President be unable to obtain for the United States a satisfactory title to the property of the New Panama Canal Company, and the control of the necessary territory of the Republic of Colombia and the rights mentioned in sections 1 and 2 of this Act, within a reasonable time and upon reasonable terms, then the President, having first obtained for the United States perpetual control by treaty of the necessary territory from Costa Rica and Nicaragua, upon terms which he may consider reasonable, for the construction, perpetual maintenance, operation and protection of a canal connecting the Caribbean Sea with the Pacific Ocean by what is commonly known as the Nicaragua route, shall, through the said Isthmian Canal Commission, cause to be excavated and constructed a ship canal and waterway from a point on the shore of the Caribbean Sea near Greytown, by way of Lake Nicaragua, to a point near Brito, on the Pacific Ocean. Said canal shall be of sufficient capacity and depth to afford convenient passage for vessels of the largest tonnage and greatest draft now in use, and such as may be reasonably anticipated, and shall be supplied with all necessary locks and other appliances to meet the necessities of vessels passing through the same from ocean to ocean, and he shall also construct such safe and commodious harbors at the termini of said canal as shall be necessary for the safe and convenient use thereof, and shall make such provisions for defense as may be necessary for the safety and protection of said harbors and canal; and such sum or sums of money as may be agreed upon by such treaty as compensation to be paid to Nicaragua and Costa Rica for the concessions and rights hereunder provided to be acquired by the United States are hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be paid on warrant or warrants drawn by the President.
"The President shall cause the said Isthmian Canal Commission to make such surveys as may be necessary for said canal and harbor to be made, and in making such surveys and in the construction of said canal may employ such persons as he may deem necessary, and may fix their compensation. In the excavation and construction of said canal the San Juan River and Lake Nicaragua, or such parts of each as may be made available, shall be used.

"Sec. 5. That the sum of ten million dollars is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated toward the project herein contemplated by either route to be selected. And the President is hereby authorized to cause to be entered into such contract or contracts as may be deemed necessary for the proper excavation, construction, completion and defense of said canal, harbors and defenses, by the route finally determined upon under the provisions of this Act.

"Appropriations therefor shall from time to time be hereafter made, not to exceed in the aggregate the additional sum of one hundred and thirty-five millions of dollars, should the Panama route be adopted, or one hundred and eighty millions of dollars, should the Nicaragua route be adopted.

"Sec. 6. That in any agreement with the Republic of Colombia, or with the States of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, the President is authorized to guarantee to said Republic or to said States the use of said canal and harbors, upon such terms as may be agreed upon, for all vessels owned by said States or by citizens thereof.

"Sec. 7. That to enable the President to construct the canal, and works and appurtenances thereto, as provided in this Act, there is hereby created the Isthmian Canal Commission, the same to be composed of seven members, who shall be nominated and appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who shall serve until the completion of said canal, unless sooner removed by the President, and one of whom shall be named as chairman of said Commission. Of the seven members of
said Commission, at least four of them shall be persons learned and skilled in the science of engineering, and of the four at least one shall be an officer of the United States Navy, and at least one shall be an officer of the United States Army, and said officers respectively being either upon the active or retired list of the Army or of the Navy. Said Commissioners shall each receive such compensation as the President shall prescribe until the same shall have been otherwise fixed by the Congress.

"In addition to the members of said Isthmian Canal Commission, the President is hereby authorized, through said Commission, to employ in said service any of the engineers of the United States Army at his discretion, and likewise to employ any engineer in civil life at his discretion, and any other persons necessary for the proper and expeditious prosecution of said work. The compensation of all such engineers and other persons employed under this Act shall be fixed by said Commission, subject to the approval of the President. The official salary of any officer appointed or employed under this act shall be deducted from the amount of salary or compensation provided by or which shall be fixed under the terms of this Act. Said Commission shall in all matters be subject to the direction and control of the President, and shall make to the President annually, and at such other periods as may be required, either by law or by the order of the President, full and complete reports of all their actions and doings and of all moneys received and expended in the construction of said work, and in the performance of their duties in connection with, which said reports shall be by the President transmitted to Congress.

"And the said Commission shall furthermore give to Congress, or either House of Congress, such information as may at any time be required, either by act of Congress or by the order of either House of Congress. The President shall cause to be provided and assigned for the use of the Commission such offices as may, with the suitable equipment of same, be necessary and proper, in his discretion, for the proper discharge of the duties thereof.
"Sec. 8. That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to borrow on the credit of the United States from time to time, as the proceeds may be required to defray expenditures authorized by this act (such proceeds when received to be used only for the purpose of meeting such expenditures), the sum of one hundred and thirty million dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, and to prepare and issue therefor coupon or registered bonds of the United States, in such form as he may prescribe, and in denominations of twenty dollars or some multiple of that sum, in gold coin, at the pleasure of the United States, after ten years from the date of their issue, and payable thirty years from such date, and bearing interest payable quarterly in gold coin at the rate of two per centum per annum; and the bonds herein authorized shall be exempt from all taxes or duties of the United States, as well as from taxation in any form by or under state, municipal or local authority. Provided, that said bonds may be disposed of by the Secretary of the Treasury at not less than par, under such regulations as he may prescribe, giving to all citizens of the United States an equal opportunity to subscribe therefor, but no commissions shall be allowed or paid theron; and a sum not exceeding one-tenth of one per centum of the amount of the bonds herein authorized is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to pay the expense of preparing, advertising and issuing the same."

Approved June 28, 1902.