

**THE MENACE OF THE
MILLIONAIRE; OR
IF I HAD A MILLION**

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The menace of the millionaire; or If I had a million by Richard D. Kathrens

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RICHARD D. KATHRENS

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RICHARD D. KATHRENS

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I still maintain that the man with vast sums of money—not earned by himself, perhaps—is a menace to the rights and opportunities of thousands, and the law should provide some sane and practical means whereby the man of small capital, or no capital, might find protection against the avarice and the unjust aggression of a rich and powerful competitor.

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OR

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BY

RICHARD D. KATHRENS

AUTHOR OF

'Let's Civilize The Marriage Laws," "What God Hath
Joined," "Hath Sin a Sex?" etc., etc.

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RICHARD D. KATHEENS

**THE MENACE OF THE
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What would you do if you had a million dollars?

Every person who has reached the age of maturity, and who has taken note of the conditions that exist about him in society, has asked or has been asked this same question; and everyone has at some time, either seriously or flippantly, indicated the special benefactions he would indulge and the good he would dispense, if he were the possessor of a fortune. The views, theories and schemes thus advanced are for the most part without value, owing to the circumscribed horizon that hedges about the mental activity of the average man, and the limited amount of real knowledge

possessed by him. But the world progresses, economically, in the degree that men question the sufficiency of prevailing systems to meet the common needs of the individual, and to indicate wherein improvement or advance may be had—and how. All human problems are finally solved in just that way, and man grows in mental and moral excellence by asking and answering questions.

There is a grain of gold in every man's opinion, if we will find it; and in the aggregate of opinions the world's wisdom finds expression. It remains for the analytical mind to assay the great mass of more or less crude notions, assumptions, conjectures, plans, etc., that may be put forth from time to time in solution of any problem—to measure them by the accepted yard sticks of science—to submit them to the acid and fire tests of known facts—to boil them down, so to speak—to separate the ore from the dross—the truth from the false—and to furnish us, free from awkward and involved verbiage, the completed, composite thought of multitudes of minds upon any subject. This is the

refining process by which dreams sometimes come true.

Among the many privileges which the present era accords to every man is the right to think, and to freely express just what he thinks, although his opinions and conjectures controvert the theories and overturn the accepted hypotheses of centuries. Of course the responsibility runs same as heretofore. He who attempts to attack fixed custom, intrenched privilege, or long settled religious convictions, need not hope to escape payment in full for his moral hardihood; and he who essays to publicly discuss questions of general concern, must be willing to receive upon his own head the full measure of public favor or condemnation.

But, men were never, as now, so willing to listen; never, as now, so amenable to reason; never, as now, so tolerant of the views of others; and the man with a message worth delivering need not hesitate to speak out. He will have no difficulty securing a forum; and if he speaks the truth—a following. It matters little about his past; his personal