

**Saint Mary's Beacon**

**What The Engagement Ring Means.**

Isn't it wonderful the amount of ecstasy that a tiny golden circlet can encompass?

The engagement ring is even more wonderful in the eyes of its happy wearer than its follower, the wedding ring, for the engagement ring comes first and there is such a world of tender sentiment entwined in it. There is not a girl in the land who does not in imagination see that magic token gleaming on the third finger of her left hand.

All her rosy girlhood dreams are centered around it, for it means the happiest moment of her life.

The origin of the betrothal ring dates by back many hundred years. In the beginning it was a gift from the groom to the bride to denote that he admitted to her the privilege of sharing his belongings.

It practically had the significance of the present day wedding ring; but in those days long engagements were not customary, so the betrothal and wedding rings were really one and the same thing.

But always, in every country where it has been used, it has meant the plighting of love vows between man and woman.

In many countries the man as well as the woman wears an engagement ring.

It is a beautiful custom, and yet it is not necessary that an engaged girl should have a ring.

Very often I receive plaintive little letters from girls who tell me that they are engaged, but have no ring.

They seem to think that all the joy of their engagement is spoiled by the fact that the ring does not adorn their left hand.

There is no doubt that it is very nice to have the ring—every girl realizes that; but, if a girl really loves her fiancée the ring cannot make much difference.

Custom has made the engagement ring rather an expensive piece of jewelry.

If the young man has his way to make in the world, it is far more sensible to put the money in the bank than to spend it on a ring.

You see, girls, the money spent on the ring would buy the dining-room furniture or pay a month's rent.

If your sweetheart can afford a ring, by all means have one; but don't be unhappy if you have to go without it.

Do not plight your truth to any man without being very sure that you cannot live happily without him.

Some girls make and break engagements of marriage as casually as they would an engagement to go to the theatre.

They think it fine to be engaged to two men at the same time.

It isn't fine, girls; it's contemptible, and hurts a girl immeasurably.

Do not read a man on to propose merely for the satisfaction of conquest. Human hearts are not made to juggle with.

After you have accepted a man's love try and realize the responsibility that rests upon you.

You must train yourself to be a good wife.

Learn the housewifely arts that will teach you how to make a happy home.

Try and bring out all that is best in your fiancée; let him see that you love and respect him and admire his fine qualities.

Encourage him to be upright and industrious.

Help him to save by not demanding extravagant gifts and treats from him.

Don't look on him as merely the man who can help you to have a good time; look on him as your future husband, the man you love and honor.

That all sounds like a very large contract, dear girls; but that is what you are responsible for when you accept a man's love.

And whether the acceptance is symbolized by a ring or not, the obligation is there just the same.—Beatrice Fairfax.

**Had a Close Call.**

"A dangerous surgical operation, involving the removal of a malignant ulcer, as large as my hand, from my daughter's hip, was prevented by the application of Bucklen's Arnica Salve," says A. C. Stickle, of Miletue, W. V. "Persistent use of the Salve completely cured it." Cures Cuts, Burns and Injuries. 25¢ at all Druggists.

Dinah came to her mistress one day and asked her for some money. Her mistress asked her what she was going to do with it, and she said: "I's gwine t' get married!" "Married? Who are you going to marry?" "Well, Miss Sally, you know dat funeral 'dat two weeks ago? De' do say I was de life o' dat funeral, I holled so. Well, Miss Sally, I's gwine t' marry de groom o' de corpse."

**Nuts to Crack.**

Why is a crow a brave bird? Because he never shows the white feather.

What did Adam first plant in the Garden of Eden? His foot.

Why is a stick of candy like a race horse? Because the more you lick it the faster it goes.

What kind of robbery is not dangerous? A safe robbery.

Why does a dressmaker never lose her books? Because she has an eye on each of them.

What is that which the more you take from it the larger it grows? A hole.

Why is the letter D like a sailor? Because it follows the C.

When is a clock on the stairs dangerous? When it runs down.

Why is a bald-headed man like a hunting dog? He makes a little hair (bare) go a great way.—Phila. Ledger.

**A Year of Blood.**

The year 1903 will long be remembered in the home of F. N. Tackett, of Alliance, Ky, as a year of blood: which flowed so copiously from Mr. Tackett's lungs that death seemed very near. He writes: "Severe bleeding from the lungs and a frightful cough had brought me at death's door, when I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, with the astonishing result that after taking four bottles I was completely restored and as time has proven permanently cured." Guaranteed for Sore Throats, Coughs and Colds. At all drug stores. Price 50¢ and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

**Political Proverbs.**

Politics is not business; it is a duty.

A bad candidate is the result of careless citizenship.

The man who forgets to vote has very little right to bemoan bad government.

The man who is not proud of his suffrage is not a source of pride to the community.

The man who fails to attend the primaries has no right to kick about a boss-ridden party.

If men were as zealous in religion as they are in their partisanship there would be more doing in church circles.

"Yes, sir," said Farmer Corntosel, "if there's anything I do like an' admire, it's an honest man. An' that's why I'm so proud of our new neighbor down the road a piece. Ef there ever was an honest man he's one."

"Are you sure he's honest?"

"Certainly; one of these frank, generous, sincere kind."

"How do you know?"

"Traded horses with him day before yesterday, an' I reckon I got at least sixty dollars the best of him."

**Quit This.**

Don't pretend, but be your real self. Don't fault find, nag and worry. Don't take offense where none is intended.

Don't boast of what you can do; do it.

Don't say unkind things about acquaintances and friends.

Don't exaggerate and make mountains out of molehills.

Don't carp and criticize. See the best, rather than the worst in others.

Don't be hinky yourself to the exclusion of everything and everyone else.

Don't belittle those whom you envy because you feel that they are superior to yourself.

Don't speculate as to what you would do in some one else's place; do your best in your own.

Don't long for the good things that others have instead of going to work and earning them for yourself.—Success.

Thackeray designated a snob as a being on a ladder who is quite as ready to kiss the feet of him who is above him as to kick the head of him who is below.

**Notice Poultry Shippers.**

When you find other near-by markets glutted, remember J. D. COFFIN & CO. have an outside market to use all produce shipped them. Ship them your Turkeys, Geese, etc. All information cards, etc. will be cheerfully furnished by their county agent, HARRY M. JONES, Leonardtown, Md.

**Undertaking.**

With two elegant Hearse and a full line Coffins and Caskets.

I am prepared to serve funerals at the shortest notice and on terms to suit the hard times.

In connection with this, I devote special attention to my Blacksmith and Wheelwright department.

All orders quickly and neatly attended to. EUGENE HALL, May 10—th, Dynard.

**Wanted.**

A young man with some experience in the grocery business, must have reference. Apply to H. W. LOVE, Palmer P. O.

**Blacksmithing.**

HAVING erected a new Blacksmith Shop on my lot on Fenwick Street, Leonardtown, and having secured the services of an expert workman from Washington city, I am prepared to do all work in my line of business with care and promptness. Satisfaction guaranteed.

W. C. MATTINGLY, May 5—ly

**BOUGHT & SOLD.**

Improved farms bought and sold. Parties desiring to do either will find it to their interest to communicate with me. C. W. THOMAS, Mechanicville, June 6—ly

**DO YOU DEPOSIT IN**

THE NATIONAL BANK OF ST. MARY'S!

WHAT ARE YOUR EXPENSES? It is very much easier to keep track of one's personal expenses when bills are paid by check. It makes the bank do most of the book-keeping and it furnishes a legal voucher of as a record of every cent paid out. If you are thinking of opening a bank account call at the ST. MARY'S NATIONAL BANK and see our Cashier. You are sure to receive prompt, courteous treatment be your account large or small. July 7y

**Undertaking.**



Having provided myself with two new and latest HEARSEs, I am prepared at the shortest notice to furnish caskets and attend funerals. Terms liberal and at the lowest price. B. B. LOVE, Oct 12—y\* Morganza, Md.

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WITH **Dr. King's New Discovery**  
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Coffins and Caskets, latest styles, always on hand and furnished at shortest notice and at lowest prices for cash.

Three Hearse always on hand. Horses, shoeing, \$1 cash. In connection with my Blacksmith and Wheelwright department, I am prepared to build Carts, Wagons, Buggies, &c., at low prices. Repairing, Painting and Trimming. J. A. DILLOW, June 21—th, Leonardtown.

**J. Emmett Lewis,** formerly of WAGNER'S GREEN HOUSE, has opened a CAFE at 116 E. Pratt Street, BALTIMORE, Md., and invites all old friends to come to his new stand and bring their friends with them, where they will find CHOICE LIQUORS and FINE EATING, All the delicacies of the season always on hand. 35 CENT MEALS A SPECIALTY. J. EMMETT LEWIS, formerly of Wagner's Green House, 116 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, Md. Aug 17 1905—ly

**Greenwell's Mill.**

FLOUR, Meal and Feed on hand for sale all the time cheap for CASH. Hereafter, in order to avoid having to keep mill books, all orders must be accompanied by the cash. F. F. GREENWELL.

**NEW FALL GOODS.**

In order that we may be up with the progressive spirit that has struck Leonardtown, we have filled our store with new goods such as millinery dress goods, shoes, underwear, etc. A specially large assortment of furs, long coats, and skirts. Give us a call; we are ready for fall business. L. A. JONES & SON, Sept. 13—th.

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I solicit your patronage and will give direct orders my personal attention.  
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