NOT ON THE MARRY

Millions of Young Men Prefer Single Life

TO THE JOYS OF MATRIMONY

There Are Plenty of Wives to Be Had, But Selfish Men Cling to the Joy of Bachelorhood.

It is estimated that there are three million young men of marriageable age in the United States who obstinately neglect to provide themselves with wives, and this implies the existence of at least an equal number of young women of marriageable age who are waiting for proposals that never come. The fact is important, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, as indicating one of the social tendencies of the period. It cannot be doubted that the popularity of matrimony has materially declined in recent years and that a kind of general hesitancy seems to prevail respecting the negotiations of such alliance. There was a time when the young people of the country hastened to pair themselves with birdlike eagerness and delight as soon as they were out of school, and society not only encouraged them but practically commanded them to take that course. They were considered superfluous and burdensome until they got married. The true work of life could not begin with them, they were taught, so long as they remained single; it was their duty to become yoked without unnecessary delay, and it was a disgrace to miss reasonable opportunities in that relation. But it is decidedly different at the present day. The practice of wedlock is no longer imperative, nor does discredit attend the unmated state, even when prolonged into the thirties. There is as much advice given against marriage as in favor of it by the wise and experienced of both sexes, and the result is a steady decrease in the proportion of actual weddings to possible ones.

The causes which have produced this marked change are not sufficiently definite for satisfactory analysis. It is probably true that our extravagant style of living is one of the effective influences. The cost of supporting a wife and raising a family is much larger than it used to be, and this feature of the matter often gives pause on both sides. We have come to measure so many things by money that matrimony has not escaped the rule. The young people are disinclined to start in a humble way and gradually improve their situation; they want all that their parents have without waiting and striving for it. Many proposals are unquestionably delayed or rejected on this account. Then, it is well known that the new avenues of employment open to women have made them more independent and probably also more exacting as to the qualifications of husbands. It is not nearly so common as it once was for girls to marry simply in order to secure a home and a living; they are able now to earn good wages and to take their time about assuming the duties of wives and mothers. We may safely believe, moreover, that the progress of women in education and in social power has led them to look less favorably upon the connubial condition of subordinating their hearts to their heads, so to speak. And finally it cannot but be that the abundance of criticism to which the marriage system has been subjected by writers of pronounced vigor and skill has served to weaken it in the popular estimation and to disparage the quality of sacredness that is its highest claim to respect and honor.

There is no reason as yet, however, to lament the prevailing tendency as a national misfortune. The amount of marrying is still large enough for all ordinary purposes, and it may be that less rather than more of it would best promote the interests of society. Such unions should be formed with some other object than that of merely propagating the species. They involve the most serious obligations and responsibilities of human life, and if people are learning to be slow and careful about making contracts of so much importance it is hardly a sign of decay or a threat of calamity. Whenever any two persons care so much for each other that they cannot happily live apart they will be wedded in spite of all opposing influences, and perhaps those are the only circumstances under which a wedding ought ever to take place. It would not do to say with Hamlet that "we will have no more marriages," and that all who are now single "shall keep as they are," but we are justified in thinking that the rate of matrimonial happiness is likely to be increased according to the measure of marriages that are brought about by reflective instead of emotional means. The system with which the critics find so much fault is not perfect, but it is much better than they represent it to be, or it would not have survived so long. With all their flaw-picking, they have not been able to devise an acceptable substitute for it, and until they are able to do so it will continue to stand as the most beneficent of those great agencies which regulate and control the affairs of civilization.

HAUNTED STATUES.

Ancient Egyptians Believed That Images Were Animated by Spirits.

When Darius I., according to Herodotus, wished to erect his statue near that of Rameses II. (Sesostris), the priests objected on the ground that Sesostris was a greater conqueror than he. The statue in question was one of several erected before the temple of Ptah at Memphis, on the borders of the sacred lake, where is now the village of Bedreshein. After Memphis became Christian the renown of its monuments died away, and when it perished the stones were removed to serve in building Cairo. One colossus remained to our day, it having been preserved under the sand, and on being unearthed by Caviglia at the beginning of the century was found to represent Sesostris in his youth.

This colossus has been visited by most tourists in Egypt, says the London Globe. It lay on the sands near the plain of Bedreshein, in a hollow or ditch, and was covered with water during the inundation. The remains of the temple might be traced along the lake, which is still represented by a depression in the ground covered with wheat fields. Of late years Gen. Stephenson and Maj. Bagnold, R. E., have excluded the waters from the colossus, raised it on timber supports above the ground and surrounded it by a brick wall. On payment of two piasters, however, it can be seen by the curious.

M. Maspero, the great Egyptologist, relates in a French contemporary that the Arabs had formerly a great awe of this, which they called Abou'l Hol, the "father of fright," as they do the sphinx. The ancient Egyptians, he assures us, believed that statues, divine or human, were animated by a spirit or "double" detached from the soul of the person they represented. This double ate, drank, and spoke or delivered oracles. In later times the double was credited with playing evil tricks on those who approached the statue, and even with killing them. His power could be destroyed by breaking the statue, or at least the features; hence it is that so many statues of the Pharoahs have been mutilated by the Arabs.

The spirit of Rameses II. was supposed to haunt the palms at night, and M. Maspero relates that every time he passed by in the evening toward dusk the driver of his ass would mutter his prayers and hurry on his beast. One evening M. Maspero asked him if he was afraid of some "afrite" and the driver begged him not to speak of such things or some harm would befall him. Presently M. Maspero was thrown from the ass in the middle of the wood and the incident was regarded by the driver as a punishment for his not speaking respectfully of the spirit in the statue. Egypt is full of such superstitions, dating from the far past.

WHY JENNY LIND RETIRED.

An Intimate Friend of the Singer Gives the True Reason.

One matter which must be of interest to every lover of dramatic art, and which has been an enigma to many people, is now for the first time dealt with by one with authority to discuss the question, says a writer in the Century. Why did Jenny Lind quit the stage at the moment of her greatest glory, and many years before her unrivaled powers had begun to suffer any decay? Some have perhaps reluctantly accepted the widely-prevalent idea that she had come to regard the dramatic profession as an unholy thing which no pure-souled woman could remain in without contamination. Happily this notion can be entertained no longer. Her intimate friend, Froken von Stedingk, with reference to it says: "Many suppose this resolution to be the result of pietism. Jenny Lind is as God-fearing as she is pure, but had pietism been the cause, she would not herself have gone to the play, which she declared she liked to do, to see others act." The fact is that to appreciate her motive for leaving the stage is to understand the whole character of the woman. Her distaste for it seems to have begun with her first great European success and steadily grew as her fame spread. In 1840 she had lived for ten years a life of incessant hard work on the stage; yet in the following year she wrote from Paris: "Life on the stage has in it something so fascinating that I think, having once tasted it, one can never feel truly happy away from it." But in 1845, just after her transcendent success in Berlin, the idea of leaving the stage had not merely occurred to her mind, but had already become a fixed determination. Among the dominant notes of her character were love of home and craving for domestic peace. This craving was to a great extent satisfied while she remained in Stockholm, and especially during the time she lived with the Lindblad family. But when her destiny drew her in relentless triumph to Berlin, Vienna, Copenhagen, London, her domestic instincts were wrenched and tortured, and she found no compensation in all the glitter of her success. "I am convinced," said Herr Brockhaus, in April, 1846, "that she would gladly exchange all her triumphs for simple homely happiness." That was the secret of the whole matter. And so she formed the resolution to quit the stage forever, a resolution in which she never wavered from 1845, when it first took definite shape, till she carried it out in London in the summer of 1849.

THREE QUEER PASSENGERS.

A Type of the Human Elements That America Tries to Assimilate.

An odd trio hurried through the Grand Central station the other day in feverish uneasiness lest they miss a train for which commuters knew there was the broad margin of a full minute, says the New York Sun. The woman staid her long strides necessary to keep pace with her husband, in order that she might reach beneath her skirts and right the maladjustment of some invisible garment. Train hands and less-hurried passengers smiled at the performance, but the unconscious foreigner resumed her strides oblivious of any impropriety. A tiny boy, who progressed by hop, skip and jump, trustfully grasped the paternal hand and was lifted aboard the train ahead of his mother. The three then found seats and the boy at once began staring out of the window.

When suburbans note a specially foreign-looking fellow-traveler in shabby attire they at once set him down for an Italian and give the matter no more thought. But only the least observant person could have mistaken these people for Italians. The man was clad in his best. His coat, waistcoat and trousers were of black material and skimpily cut, so that his legs looked spindling and his waist was clearly outlined. The garments were manifestly town-made, but the queer fur cap he wore looked as if it might have been the creation of his own hands, a trophy of the chase in the wilds whence he came. The woman wore a showy dark-green gown trimmed with olive-green lace. She had small gold ornaments in her ears. Her figure was of indefinite shape, and if she wore corsets they were of the ill-fitting kind that adds the last touch of shabbiness to a forlorn gown. The boy was neatly clad in knickerbockers and Norfolk jacket. Only his cap had a foreign air. It was a brown cloth affair, running to a sharp tasseled peak, which was turned over half way up and flattened at the side of the head.

Only one with considerable ethnographic knowledge would have guessed the nationality of mother and son. The former was pale but not ill-featured, save that mouth and chin were thrust forward in ungraceful outline. The boy had his mother's pale complexion and straight nose, but in his smiling curiosity he looked not unlike other children native to the soil. But the father was unmistakable. His small, slanting, dull brown eyes, shapeless nose, high cheek bones and ugly chin proclaimed the ancestral Kalmuck, his cousinship with historic Tartars. He was an eastern European of more remote Asiatic origin, from Russia or the borders of Hungary. As to the skipping boy in Norfolk jacket and knickerbockers, his smiling curiosity will make him master of American ways before he has attained his manhood, and the enormous digestive power of the republic will doubtless assimilate him.

ONLY A PIECE OF GLASS.

Moving the Great Telescope Lens at Washington.

There was a very plain but very substantial looking pine box tied up with numerous coils of rope and nailed tight at all points lying yesterday morning on the floor of a dingy and deserted room at the old naval observatory, says the Washington Post.

The observation slit in the revolving dome had been closed and the great tube of the big 26-inch equatorial telescope was swung around and hung dejectedly alongside of its pedestal.

The old sky-scraping workshop of the government had been closed up for good, and in the pine box on the floor was all that was valuable of the old telescope, the great 26-inch lens, some two hundred and fifty pounds of quite ordinary-looking glass valued at $30,000.

It was the last of the apparatus of the old observatory that was to be carried up to the new station on the heights above Georgetown, and there to be fitted to a new tube that is being manufactured by Wagner & Swasey, of Cleveland.

The task of removing the great lens to the new observatory was one of the most delicate pieces of work in connection with the transfer of the station. The glass was packed in a special case wedged into place with folds of soft paper placed with regular intervals over its surface and allowing for expansion by heat, as in that case a tight-fitting box might "pinch" the glass, and change the perfect image which it now gives.

This inner case was packed in the outer heavy box with plenty of soft packing in between the two and then loaded carefully upon a thick mattress in the bottom of a spring wagon.

It was tied in place with several ropes, and rolls of packing were wedged between the box and the edges of the seat; and then, with three men sitting around it to prevent any possible slip, the wagon started off at a funeral pace, which was maintained till the precious case was fairly landed at the new station on the hill.

The Stoical Chinee.

A surgeon who has had opportunity to observe the Chinese under operations says "as a stoical race they beat the Indians." They object to anæsthesia, and submit to amputation of limbs without an outcry. They have no fear of death, and prefer to suicide by opium rather than to live in a helpless, crippled condition, a burden on their friends. So a surgeon's best efforts in their behalf often come to nought. Their wounds heal quickly, which is attributed to their cleanliness and diet (mainly vegetarian). Their tissues, under the surgeon's knife, seem more dense and elastic, or less flabby than the flesh of a Caucasian.

The Most Pleasant Way

Of preventing the grippe, colds, headaches, and fevers is to use the liquid laxative remedy Syrup of Figs, whenever the system needs a gentle, yet effective cleansing. To be benefited one must get the true remedy manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., only. For sale by all druggists in 50c. and $1 bottles.

"For the past two or three years I have been subject to cramping pains in the stomach," says Mr. W. A. Baldwin, a hardware merchant of Boonville, Dallas county, Ia. "I have tried a number of different remedies, the best one being Chamberlain's colic, cholera and diarrhea remedy. One or two doses of it always cures me." Sold by F. J. Wurzburg, druggist, No. 58 Monroe street.

For pains in the chest there is nothing better than a flannel cloth saturated with Chamberlain's pain balm and bound on over the seat of pain. It will produce a counter irritation without blistering, and is not so disagreeable as mustard; in fact is much superior to any plaster on account of its pain-relieving qualities. If used in time it will prevent pneumonia. 50 cent bottles for sale by F. J. Wurzburg, druggist, No. 58 Monroe street.

An Enemy Baffled.

There is an enemy with whom thousands are familiar all their lives, because they are born with a tendency to biliousness. With this enemy they are constantly battling with ineffectual weapons. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters will baffle it. Mere purgatives will not reform a disordered condition of the liver indicated, not by constipation alone, but also by sick headaches, yellowness of the skin and eye balls, nausea, furred tongue and uneasiness more particularly upon pressure on the right side, upon and below the short ribs. Avoid drastic purgatives which gripe and weaken the intestines, and substitute this world-famous anti-bilious cordial, which likewise removes malarial, stomachic and kidney complaints, rheumatism and nervousness. As a laxative of the bowels, painless but effectual, it improves appetite, sleep and the ability to digest, and possesses the additional advantage of a standard tonic.

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The success of Chamberlain's cough remedy in effecting a speedy cure of colds, croup and whooping cough has brought it into great demand. Messrs. Pontius & Son of Camerون, O., say that it has gained a reputation second to none in that vicinity. James M. Queen of Johnston, W. Va., says it is the best he ever used. B. F. Jones, druggist, Winona, Miss., says: "Chamberlain's cough remedy is perfectly reliable. I have always warranted it and it never failed to give the most perfect satisfaction." 50 cent bottles for sale by F. J. Wurzburg, druggist, No. 58 Monroe street.

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Is a good motto to follow in buying a medicine as well as in everything else. By the universal satisfaction it has given and by the many remarkable cures it has accomplished, Dullam's Great German Blood, Liver, Stomach and Kidney Cure has proven itself unequalled for building up and cleansing your system and for all diseases arising from impure blood. Do not experiment with an unheard of or untried article which you are told is as good, but be sure and get Dullam's. All druggists keep it.

For sale at D. C. Scribner's drug store, No. 73 Monroe street.

"In buying a cough medicine for children," says H. A. Walker, a prominent druggist of Ogden, Utah, "never be afraid to buy Chamberlain's cough remedy. There is no danger from it and relief is always sure to follow. I particularly recommend Chamberlain's because I have found it to be safe and reliable. It is intended especially for colds, croup and whooping cough." 50 cent bottles for sale by F. J. Wurzburg, druggist, No. 58 Monroe street.

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I have been affected with neuralgia for nearly two years, have tried physicians and all known remedies, but found no permanent relief until I tried a bottle of Dullam's Great German Liniment and it gave me instant and permanent relief, 25 cents per bottle.

Signed, A. B. SNELL.
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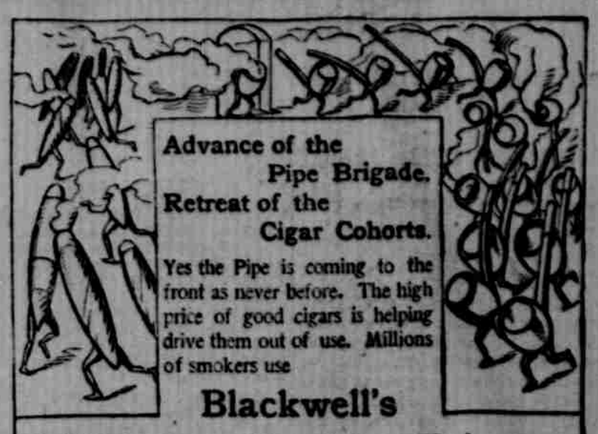

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