

Men Who Mean to Marry Peculiar Manners of Seekers of Licenses to Wed.

CLERKS KNOW THEM AT ONCE Some Try to Look Unconcerned, Others Smile With an Air of Self-Satisfaction—The Romantic Young Man Calls His Girl by Her Pet Name. The Widower's Demander.

One of the assistant clerks at the city hall was standing in the door that opens on the large stone-pillared portico one day last week when a young man of about thirty and twenty years alighted from a car immediately in front of the entrance. The young man stepped to the pavement and again appeared in full view beside the entrance of the hall.

The new comer looked about him in a nervous way, and was not familiar with the temple of justice. He advanced up the stone steps towards the doorway. He was neck-looking, was probably a department clerk or a bookkeeper down town.

When he reached the door he said to the clerk: "Will you direct me to the place where marriage licenses are issued?"

"GOT WHAT HE WANTED." The clerk went with him and served as the open sesame to Hymen's altar. The young man selected a five-dollar bill from a well-filled purse and departed with the trophy. For all the reporter could have told he had gone through that same little performance a hundred times, he did it so unconcernedly.

"How did you know that fellow wanted a marriage license when you saw him coming towards the door," was asked the clerk. "By his looks," was the epigrammatic response. "You evidently didn't notice the nervous vein in that air of unfamiliarity he showed with the clerk's face, just after he passed the Lincoln statue you evidently did not see him burst unconsciously into a smile that immediately vanished when he looked up and saw us. Maybe your eyes were not strong enough, too, to see the little dark spot on the back of his neck which he opened to note the time. That was his picture. Then when I made my announcement."

And it is so always. So accustomed does the marriage license clerk become to the characteristics of the man who is about to enter the realm of matrimony, that he can identify a waste of words for the license seeker to say what he wants after he reaches the door of the clerk's office. The clerk has the blank certificate out and is awaiting him when he reaches the desk.

LICENSE HUNTERS CLASSIFIED. While the actions of the young man just described are not an unusual characteristic, yet he belongs to the "take-it-and-run" minority. Of course, they all become more or less interesting to the clerk, he sees so much of them. But there are others.

There is the romantic license hunter. He is full of love and it crops out in his actions. When the clerk says, "Just after he passed the Lincoln statue you evidently did not see him burst unconsciously into a smile that immediately vanished when he looked up and saw us. Maybe your eyes were not strong enough, too, to see the little dark spot on the back of his neck which he opened to note the time. That was his picture. Then when I made my announcement."

There is another class, the widower. He steps up to the desk with the atmosphere about him that of a man that has been there before. If the clerk needs any information the license-seeker can give it. He knows which name to give first and needs not ask how much the license costs. He doesn't tell his story. He doesn't have to. This little "gold heart" clerk intended as an article of jewelry for the other sex, that has superseded his watch-chain tells it.

GOLDEN HAIRS ON HIS COAT. Then, too, there are two or three golden hairs lying innocently on his shoulder. They didn't come from his head, nor for years, anyhow, for the individual hairs that are particularly shy of the crown of his head and leave that portion of his anatomy staring like an ostrich egg from a pile of Sahara sand are short and gray. They show that she down whose back they were supposed to have hung is young or two.

The colored individual is one of the most frequent visitors to the marriage license clerk's desk. In fact, though there is no positive way of determining it, it is a safe estimate to say that one-half of the marriage licenses issued are taken by colored individuals.

In many instances, however, the colored minister who calls to make return of the marriage is more ludicrous than the lover who bought the license.

Only yesterday one of the clerks discovered in an equity docket, where only the proceedings in suits in equity are supposed to be entered, a minister's return of a marriage he had celebrated. The return was made on the 6th day of December, but the clergyman failed to append his name to the entry.

Another species of marriage license applicant is the soft young man. He who has sat on the park bench with the girl he calls his and has watched with her the full moon roll along. The next night

Don't forget to look at our stock before you fit your children out for school.

We make a specialty of Boys' and Children's Clothing, and can give you a good suit from \$1.25 up.

Children's Clothing

has to stand a great deal of rough usage, and unless it is of good material and well made it will wear but a very short time. We keep the kind that looks well and wears well.

New York Clothing House, 311 7th St. N. W.

FINANCIAL.

Workingmen

and other wage occupations prevent them from making deposits during regular banking hours will find it convenient to visit the Union Savings Bank, 1222 F St. N. W.

which is open EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT between the hours of 6 and 8. Four per cent. interest on savings account.

THE NORTHEASTERN SAVINGS AND DEPOSIT BANK, corner of 11th and Second Sts. N. W., will keep open every Saturday evening until 8 o'clock, for the accommodation of the public and will receive deposits of as little as one dollar. The same rate of interest will be paid on time deposits as is now being paid by other first-class institutions of the city.

WILLIAM A. ENGLISH, President. J. HILLMAN, Cashier.

LIGHTNESS

not sacrificing strength, beautiful lines and unexcelled finish, are SYRACUSE points.

This is bicycle weather, look at the "CRIMSON RIMS."

ENTERPRISE + CYCLE + CO. EVERYTHING FOR WHEELMEN. 908 N. Y. Ave. N. W.

"Crescent" Riders Are Prize Winners

Wherever they enter, Mr. Wrenn won Bicycle and Diamond Stud at the Washington and Columbia. HE BOKE A "CRESCENT." So do more than 1,000 riders all over this country. They've found out "Crescent" are the lightest, handiest, fastest wheels on earth. \$19 to \$50.

Western Wheel Works, Washington Branch, Cor. Ninth and H Sts.

he always sat in the same place, his place with the same girl, watching the same moon begin to wear off its fullness.

HAS LOTS TO TELL. It is an event in his life to take out a marriage license. He invariably lingers about the clerk's desk and grows communicative. There is a weariness in his talk though, and the clerk has that glad feeling after he is gone, like the feeling that comes over one when one's neighbor's dog has been mysteriously poisoned.

Numbered among the others who seek licenses is the bashful young man who seasons his paragonish-bashfulness with the unparagonish essences of a fool.

"Come after a marriage license," he tells the clerk. "What is your name?" "Oh, it isn't for me; it is for my friend," and he tells his "friend's" name.

The clerk bustles himself in making the entry, and then asks: "And who are you going to marry?" And the young man innocently tells her name and forgets that he lied.

"There is no age limit in the matrimonial field," said one of the clerks. "The other day a colored man of seventy asked for a license. He had never been married. The girl he was to marry was just passing twenty. He said he had a little house and lots might have when he was gone. She probably thought of that before he did."

Supreme Bench Geographically. The various sections of the country are very unevenly represented in the Supreme Court of the United States, a fact to which the recent death of Justice Jackson calls attention. The justices have not only appellate jurisdiction, but district jurisdiction as well, and nominally they are supposed to represent all parts of the country.

Prior to the death of Justice Jackson, Kentucky, Tennessee and Louisiana, three neighboring States, with similar interests, had three justices, one each. Illinois and Michigan had two, the Pacific coast one, New England one and Kansas one. The great Middle Atlantic and South Atlantic States, including New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and West Virginia, were represented collectively by one justice, a resident of Pittsburg.

Prof. Maurice Joyce has some excellent material from which to develop a strong basketball team in addition to the regular gymnastic and athletic work. Work on the basketball team will be taken up at once and as soon as a date can be arranged the team will play a game with the strong team of the Baltimore Y. M. C. A.

The indoor competitions of last winter in athletic lines among members were beneficial in many ways and this season these contests will be held monthly, so that there will be constant interest and rivalry.

Al. Becker, who holds the Institute championship in indoor pole vaulting, will strive hard to land it again. John Pearson is getting himself into

Among Local Athletes

Doings in Amateur Circles on Land and Water.

BOWLING LEAGUE PROSPECTS

Industry's Gymnasium Generously Offered to Y. M. C. A.—No Football Team at C. A. C.—Potomac's Stag Parties—Gymnastics at the Institute—Outing Club Notes.

The continuance of the unusually hot spell of weather during the past week or more has been anything but encouraging to indoor athletic work, or even the mere preparation for it. With more seasonable weather the work will go on actively and earnestly.

The several younger organizations who are anxious to become prominent in athletics this winter will make their work go with a rush, and the competition between these and the older ones will be very strong.

The indications are that the coming indoor season will be a very active one in gymnastics and in bowling circles, as well as in general lines.

Naturally the absence of the very live and active Y. M. C. A. workers will be much felt, though it is possible that even these may have some temporary working place pending the building of their permanent home.

It is very likely that the homeless Y. M. C. A. will accept the generous offer and kind invitation of the Washington Light Infantry Corps, tendering the free use of its splendid gymnasium on such nights as the armory is not used for drilling and when it is not fired for ball and other purposes. The corps through Capt. Allison Naylor, chairman of the athletic committee, and the generous act was highly appreciated by the officers and members of the Y. M. C. A.

If the invitation is accepted the work of the club will be greatly benefited, and it cannot be too soon in a physical way to both.

BOWLING SEASON PROSPECTS. The bowling season is looked forward to with considerable interest, as the struggle for the local championship promises to be a hot one. The Carroll Institute team with its new efforts to bowl on will make a mighty effort to secure last year's championship which it won profitably.

A number of changes will be made in the several teams and new material will be seen on a majority of the league teams and these will have much to do to keep their relatively good positions as the veterans of last year left them.

Of course nothing can be said as to the makeup of the several teams because they have not yet been chosen, nearly all the clubs will choose their teams from among the players who make the best showing in a given number of test games.

This system creates at once an interest and a strong rivalry between the bowling clubs. The preliminary games for the prize in each contest being a place on this or that team to play in the league series, an honor coveted by many aspiring twirlers of the wooden sphere.

COLUMBIA ATHLETIC CLUB. The question of having a football club to represent the Columbia Athletic Club is still a mooted one with the chances in favor of the negative side. Teams of this kind are an expensive adjunct to a club and without prospects for games with other teams from which certain and sure profit may be expected, it would be useless expense to maintain one.

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The Fireman.

He Was Restored—Dr. Walker Did It.

Probably no man in this city is better known than Mr. H. E. Thomas, who, for thirteen years, has been connected with the city fire department, and who at present is stationed at No. 6 engine house, on Massachusetts avenue, between Fourth and Fifth streets northwest.

In an interview yesterday Mr. Thomas said: "I feel as if I ought to tell the people that Dr. Walker has done for me. For the last seven or eight years I have been a constant sufferer from extreme nervousness, it being so bad at times that it seriously interfered with my regular duties. When I went to Dr. Walker some time ago I was suffering from nervous exhaustion and general debility, and although I looked well, I was far from feeling so. I had tried several of the best physicians in this city without receiving permanent aid, and now that Dr. Walker has done so much for me, I heartily recommend him to all sufferers who have chronic troubles that have baffled other physicians."

LOW FEES. The doctor is a firm believer in low fees. For this reason, as well as his marvelous skill, can his crowded reception room be ascribed.

Young or middle-aged men suffering from the results of their own follies, vices, or excesses, or from the influence of vices, who are conscious of any impediments or disqualifications to a happy marriage, should consult Dr. Walker. To reach and reclaim such unfortunates has been one of his aims, and he has been the means of restoring hundreds to health and happiness.

Dr. Walker may be consulted free of charge at his well-known sanitarium, 1411 Pennsylvania avenue, adjoining Willard's Hotel. Office hours, 10 a. m. to 5 p. m.; Wednesday and Saturday evenings, 7 to 8; Sundays, 10 to 12.

Letters promptly answered. Charges for treatment very low. All interviews and correspondence strictly confidential. No cases made public without consent of patients.

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Tried to Work Coup

Pleasant Valley Stables Caught in a Clever Game.

Entered as Panama Belle in the Hope That the Talent and Bookies Would Think She Was Panama Belle—But It Did Not Go, as the Horse Failed to Win—Other Events.

The followers of the Pleasant Valley Stables, headed by Frank Wier, made an attempt yesterday at the Island, to pull off a coup that would have netted them a handsome return if it had gone through.

For some time past there has been a four-year-old mare named Panama Belle, and who was entered in the name of John Mangan, struggling to graduate from the middle class. Although she has started many times she is so much on the dog order that she has not yet succeeded in getting a ring around her name.

Yesterday a four-year-old mare named Panama Belle, entered in the name of "Georgetown Stable" was in the first event which was a maiden dash at half mile.

The bookies and public when they saw the name of course thought that it was their old friend Panama Belle and knowing her to be a dog the gentlemen of odds chalked up all kinds of fancy prices.

TUMBLING TO THE FACT. By some mischance, however, the bookmakers tumbled to the fact that they were laying against some kind of a game, and before much of the "right money" had come in, the odds had gone down, and most of the wagers were lost at 4 to 1. This did not stay long, however, and when the mare went to the post 3 to 5 was the best price obtainable.

To add to the deception the old Panama Belle was being paraded around the paddock, while the new owner, Panama Belle, was saddled behind it.

The whole thing was worked beautifully, and not one of the rules of racing, however, that was not taken into consideration, and the fact that it was in any way broken. There was one good thing might be beaten, she certainly had speed enough to win, but got away almost last, and could not get up to the leaders.

The third event was that with a mile, finished at 2:00, three-horse finish, and the fifth race, at five furlongs, had another one.

The first race was full of accidents. The Moor and Little Silver each had a good chance to win it at one stage of the race, but the former bid badly and finished next to last, and little Silver was cut down so badly while near the finish that he had to be destroyed. Countess profited by their bad luck, and won after a drive, by a neck, from George R.

MRS. STEWART WANTED IT. Dr. Reed was the choice in the second race. Mrs. Stewart staidly took it into her head to run and leading from flag fall to finish won somewhat handsily from Mohawk with Dr. Reed third. The race was a very "oddy" while near the finish that he had to be destroyed. Countess profited by their bad luck, and won after a drive, by a neck, from George R.

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Bicycle Instruction and Practice Riding

At Columbia Field. 17th and C Streets N. W.

In opening this popular athletic ground for bicycle instruction and practice riding we are offering to the Washington public the ideal place of this country.

Within five minutes' walk of the State, War and Navy building we have an inclosed area of over 100,000 square feet, encircled by a bicycle track with high banking, so that our riding surface is without posts, walls, fences or obstructions of any kind. The surface has been scraped and rolled until it is as smooth as a billiard table.

Practice Riding. Inside the race track we have laid out a cycle path twenty-five feet wide, which will be reserved for practice riding by the more proficient riders or by those desiring to get the benefit of this health-giving exercise away from the publicity of the open streets and roads.