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A MYSTERY. "60 Ady lady or gentlemen, by sending their address, color of eyes and 35 cts. will receive, by must the earle state of their future with or knowled. N. B. Persons winting to learn the date of marriage, and their stature formers sended dee eatry. Address fact manner had set him quite at his case

'All I ask of you Miss Danley is this: Will you or will you not see him?" 'I will; certainly; why not?' replied Miss Priscilla, looking at her questioner

Poetry. APRIUS PREAK.

When April still was young, and full of her tricks and wiles,—

The Sun and the Wind will moure

For they lore me well, I know; I will hear what they say of me In my drapery of snow."

She clothed hereelf in white.

The Sun ruse up to the morn And looked from east to wes And April lay still and white.

"lihe that was always fair, Hehold how white she lies!

over the golden hair, Close down the beaming eyes; as last time let me like thee;

Sweet April, we shall miss thee!"

The Run touched his lire to her check

And the color returned in a glow; The Wind laid his hand on her hair,

Sweet April shook herself free

General Literature.

OYLV A BLUYDER.

'Don't you know of some one who would

should like to get married. It is very dif-

Samantha-that's my oldest-she does the

Having taken to himself a 'child-wife' in

know about planning and contriving?"

belingly.

shiftlessness' b.

this moment.'s

honey in the wood.

oit of white paper,

by saying a good word for me."

which struck home to the Doctor's benevo-

pretence of asking after old lady Danley's

'I would like to see you a few moment

What has he got in his head now!

taken all the money out of my stocking to

pay off that mortgage—as far as the heel.'
'Miss Danley,' said the Doctor, after a

candid opinion in regard to—to matrim

vay into the ball of her thumb

xcellent provider-

her hands.

ble home-

'A widower?"

'How many children?'

'What are his means?'

efore I'd set eyes on the man.

few desultory coughs; and a few prelimina-

Priscilla punched the apple-corer a little

'My opinion, Docter? You didn't come

rrows had suddenly hit her, and ran to the

ink in the most irrelevant manner to wash

'A man that would give you a comforta-

'No more of your 'supposes' Dr Ells-

'So I will all but the name. Iv'e no idea

Well to do, Miss Danley, or I wouldn't

have come here on such an errand."
'What do you want me to say, Doctor? I

shouldn't like to have the certificate made

out, you know, and the minister spoken to,

Dr. Ellsworth laughed. The worst was

ow over, and Miss Priscilla's matter-of-

of trifling with you Miss Priscilla. He is a

Priscilla met him at the door.

ing like Aurora.

ing while I talk.

nake me a good wife, Dr. Ellsworth ?"

bit of shaving as he spoke.

Then he called the Wind from his rost.

Sgh and lament," he said;
"Sweet April, the child, is deait!

o stiently, in the night,

Often frowning and sad, Again all grace and smiles,— One day to herself she said, "I will feign that I am dead.

wife Dr. Ellsworth was bespeaking. ing his pretended errand, and turning back | swer.' at the door, 'how is your grandmother,

was as sharp as a fish knife, disapprovingly. 'Grandmother is no better,' said she, 'and she will be no better while she continues tolive on blue-pills and Dover's powders. All my wonder is that she is alive,"

'I have told the old lady,' observed Dr. as unfavorably as too little; but she thinks she has lived long enough to me for for better or worse," indge for herself; and so I can do nothing for her I will wish you good by for the firesent, and call again soon, with your with us, Mr. Hayden.' leave, to introduce the gentleman referred

week or Saturday—that is baking day.
Men are such fools, and the most foolish rubble spirits had suffered collapse on acthing about them is, they don't know that they are fools, said Miss Priscilla aside, taking up a pan of apples and setting it spoke. down again with an emphasis.

Salmon Hayden chewed anxiously on a plexion more like a russet apple than ap-ple blossom. But, though not strictly his future depended upon one she Well, Hayden, I don't know. Can't you find somebody for yourself? replied Dr. attractions besides those in her money Ellsworth, folding a powder in a bit of blue stocking. She never made a failure of any- they would take sugar and cream in their thing she turned her hand to, from pies to | cups. 'No, Doctor, I can't,' answered Hayden, poetry; and in sickness she was worth her helplessly; 'I have been refused so many times I feel rather delicate about trying. If you could do something for me! I weight in diamond dust.

ficult finding help, and the best of help don't take that interest a wife would. Why, everything's at loose ends in my house. to his silly 'child-wife's' pretty face and Salmon Hayden, and with it the six regay spirits with especial satisfation that sponsibilities which romped around his night. best she can; but what do young girls Next week, on the afternoon of ironing

'Sure enough,' responded the Doctor, his old age, he was supposed to know what 'And then, again,' continued the wouldbe Benedict, rolling the shaving under his ting together again the sewing-machine. She might to the end of the chapter, and tongue, as if it had been a cud of sweet and Round Miss Priscilla's slender waist was who was there to thank her for it? Six was bitter fancy—then, again, it costs a sight of money to hire so much. Says I to myself was a kerosene lamp with the top off, while six into her own hands as no maiden aunt mor'n six months ago, says I 'Salmon her right brandished a feather.

Hayden, do you look around for some smart, driving, go-shead woman and mar-ry her if you can! But somehow I haven't ushered the two callers into the sitting-The Doctor rubbed his left ear reflectively. 'Suppose now I should may Priscilla Danley. She would make an excellent wife, I am sure; and I really think she

would be willing to change her situation.

There is nobody else who occurs to me at Salmon Hayden's eyes lighted like the eyes of Jonathan after he had tasted the ever, Miss Priscilla darted after him.

leal of confidence in your judgment, Docor, and if it is your opinion she will suit all round, you would confer a great favor

Dr. Ellsworth folded another powder in a 'I think, said he, 'you had be ler do the speaking. I am not accustomed to such business myself; never did anything of the lady of his love. kind but once, and that was on my own ac-

'I can't, doctor, I have had so much bad luck. If you would only help me this figure did certainly contrast favorably with once, I shall always account you my best one.' There was not a shadow of doubt in her hair full of knitting needles had left So he promised; and that very evening the room on purpose to give him an oppor-tunity to express his sentiments. There took occasion to call at Mr. Danley's under was no time to be lost, he thought; for she

'I am a poor, bereaved man,' said he tryme, Miss Danley,' said the Doctor, blushing to get a view of his left boot, 'ahem ! as suppose my friend has told you." To be sure you may, answered Priscilla Mrs. Pillsbury looked up sympathetical-

briskly, 'if you'll step into the kitchen where I'm paring apples. It's a busy time ly, 'I am sorry for you, Mr. Hayden.' just now, and I can as well keep my hands ery encouraging to the poor stammerer.
'Yes, a poor bereaved man,' repeated he, ought she, as they walked along togeth-

er. 'Come to borrow money, I'll warrant. He might as well save his breath; for I've worth a great deal to me-worth more than you can think. Mrs. Pillsbury looked up again, and this time with innocent surprise. It was not Mr. Hayden, with the impatience of a really clear to her why her sympathy should

e so especially valuable.
'You have a feeling heart, madam.' ry ahems, 'I would like to ask you your I always thought a house must seem utterly desolate when a man goes and finds of the necessary time for the preparation motheriess children in place of his wife.' all this length of ways to say that? It you Mrs. Pidsbury, as she spoke, looked up nto the eyes of the bereaved with such did it's a pity you shouldn't get it though; so I'll out with it and not wait to be coaxed. tender plty, that his heart leaped with a It's my candid opinion that matrimony does very well in its place.' great bound towards the gentle sympathizer, instantly taking her into its empty cor-But in your own case, Miss Priscilla?

uppose now a good, likely man, and an 'I don't know how to thank Dr. Ellaworth enough for the favor of this introduction,' said he gratefully. 'I suppose you understand the object of my visit upon this occasion, and are willing, I hope, to receive my attentions with a view to marriage? I suppose, too, you must understand that I must wish to hasten matters as fast as is onvenient to you. I am all ready now worth. If youv'e got anything to say, say and hope you will name as early a day as

So saying-the mind of Mr. Hayden re verting to the old days of his first court ship-he took Mrs Pillsbury's pincushio of a hand in the most affectionate manner -the very hand which ought at that specia moment to have been frying fritters for its impatient owner, her husband. Impatient sure enough; for before Mrs. Pilisbury, in her amazement had time to speak, or even draw back, the opposite doors opened, and from one came the voice of Mr. Pillsbury, inquiring with conjugal freedom, if sup per was nearly ready. Then he steppe over the threshold, and stood in dumb sur prise just as Miss Priscilla appeared in the

'Sarah Matilda 7 my wife !' was all the satonished husband could niter; while after the fire was discovered. It was a new 'Mercy on us?' fell from the pursed lips of building, and insured for about \$1,100. Miss Priscilla like a quick storm of ball - Amount of loss unknown.

with eyes as penetrating as two blue gimb- which was the most astonished one of the lets, and with as much composure as though it had been a suit of clothes instead of a first to regain equipoise was Sarah Matilda. 'Oh, well! Then it's all right, I will call she, with ready tact. 'He has mistaken over with the continuous and introduce.' over with the gentleman and introduce me an old married woman, for my cousin, him,' returned the Doctor, hastily drawing Miss Danley. Priscilla, he has asked for on his gloves, 'By-the-way,' remember- my mind, and I refer him to you for an an-

'Yes, yes,' gasped Mr. Hayden, with as Miss Priscilla? Good a grace as he could command. A natural mistake, ladies; and I hope you'll excuse it Miss Danley, I mean Mrs. 'Pills-y.' Grandmother is no better, said she bury,' suggested the outraged husband se-

'And I sincerely hope,'-faltered the father of six, with an appealing glance at the spinster's top-knot of steel-colored ribbon, Ellsworth, mildly as became a warrior who which protruded from each side of the would not speak to the prejudice of his tight twist like a two-edged sword, 'I sin-own weapons, 'that too much medicine may cerely hope, Miss Danley, it will be so you cerely hope, Miss Danley, it will be so you can overlook this little blunder, and take

'You is ready,' said Priscilla without bending her head; 'walk out and sit down The invitation looked propitions. If the

ady had been offended beyond all hopes of reconciliation she would not have asked the enemy to tea. Mr. Hayden's India count of his innocent mistake; but they inflated and rebounded as Miss Priscilla

He watched her sitting upright before the Miss Danley's figure was adapted to wiry

Miss Danley's figure was adapted to wiry

ittle Japan truy, pouring a stream of tea as
tength rather than grace, and she earried nearly as possible at right-angles with the lecision and capability in every thread of nose of the tea-pot; and thought within her chocolate calico. Her hair, which was the color of white pepper, had a way of house better than the sympathetic Mrs. colling itself up in a high twist, fastened | Pillsbury, on whom he had wasted five by an inflexible steel comb; and her com- minutes of hopeful and unlawful adoration. Yes, he was satisfied that the happiness of beautiful, Miss Priscilla Danley had other | from Miss Danley's decisive lips, which as yet had only opened to ask her guests if

Miss Priscilla did not for a moment forget the propriety of the occasion; but while Dr. Ellsworth was quite conscious of this she was acting her part as hostess with the as he shut the daor of the thrifty Danley mansion; yet somehow, such is the perversity of the heart of man, he went home | should she not accept the horny hand of There was Sam-that was Priscilla's

day, which everybody knows is Tuesday, brother-he had a wife, just now gone vishe called with the impatent Mr. Hayden, on Miss Priscilla.

Hayden, lting—and eight children. Was it Priscilla's duty to stand forever over those children. And this was the way the Fates had or- dren with a towel, a cake of soap, a darkdered it. She and her cousin Mrs. Pills- ing needle, and a pair of seissors? She had bury, not expecting visitors before tea, done it thus far ever since Sam married were engaged in taking to pieces and put- that incapable Hannah Lovejoy, and do it might dare, and there would be only an ir-It was not an opportune moment that responsible, easy-going man to say, 'why nephew David, aged sixteen, roguishly do ye so?'

Miss Priscilla considered and considered. room. Miss Priscilla was conscious that As for the mistake Mr. Hayden had made scarlet vied with russet in her face, and that the twist at the back of her head was stuck full of kutting predice.

Introductions were hurried over, and the absent minded, flighty man was the Doc-Dector took his leave, feeling guilty, and very much afraid of the severe glaness which the gimlet eyes were boring into his love to Sarah Matilda he supposed he was soul. The moment he left the room, how- making it to Priseilla; so pray what was the difference? It is not best to split a hair 'So that is your widower, is it? And a from west to northwest side, and Miss Dan-'Well she's a woman I don't know; but if you think she will do, why, all right. I must consider my children, you undertrade and any consider who will make a serious that the best of the protection of the prot proaches, but shut the front door behind | before : and now that she had seen the him with the utmost dispatch, while Miss bridegroom expectant she had no particular fault to find with him, except that he tollet, leaving Mr. Hayden and her cousin | would talk with his mouth full. She congether.

As it was a day of blunders, and the of fritters had quite sunk to nothingness. Fates had matters in their own hands, it is not to be wondered at that Mr. Hayden had verse proportion. Miss Prisellia had demade a mistake at the outset-the trifling | cided that he would do to sit at the foot of one of supposing Mrs. Pillsbury was the the table at which she should preside as head. She would as lief pour tea for him 'I am glad it was not the other one,' said as any man she knew; and being a woman he to himself, complacently; for Mrs.
Pillsbury's comely face and plump little space of time and with the lewest possible words, she soon made the cestatic man acthe grimness and angularity of 'the other | quainted with the state of her heart; where upon he smiled like the sun after a shower, Solomon Hayden's mind that the lady with and immediately called together all the scattered rays of his affections, and beamed down upon her tropically.

After supper Mrs. Pillsbury stepped into her cousin's place once more. Not as bemight come back again as suddenly as she fore, in the affections of her suitor, but this time more acceptably in her work of cleaning away the table and overlooking Mrs. Sam Danley's eight children, who from oldest to youngest inherited their mother's incapacity; 'Hannah all over,' as their aunt Priscilla often said with a discourage There was a tear in her eye, which was sigh. And thus Miss Danley had time for a little necessary conference with her elect-ed bridegroom in the parlor. A seain more assured tones; 'and really, mad-ame, a word of condoience from you is ways carried a ball of yarn and a crotchethook in her pocket; and many was the ti dy and the yard of edging that had grown out of such odd minutes. 'I hope,' said

lover-'I hope you won't keep me waiting 'Nothing to wait for, as I know of ; I was 'I hope I have Mr. Hayden; but your never one to dawdle. When there is any onely condition must touch any one, I am thing to be done, do it, say I,' returned the intended bride, making a rapid calculation itable contingencies of washing, baking and ironing thrown in.

'Tuesday,' said she with a reflective thrust of her book into the heart of a tidy, already predestined to cover Mr. Hayden' est rocking chair-Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday-yes, well-two weeks from to day is as early as I can arrange to leave here. There are the dresses to finish for the children; and I have promised to make some bottles of sarsaparilla and cordial for grandmother; and then there will be some little things for myself. Yes, to-day two weeks, we will say; and you can call again about next week on Wednesday; there may be something to talk over. shall not expect you more than that once, for I shall be very much engaged, and i must be just the busy season with you."

Thus in her practical way Miss Priscilla took at once the family reins which she held with a firm hand ever after. As a housekeeper, a wife, and a stepmother, sh mended, giving Mr. Hayden no reason to regret that his momentary adoration for

-The dwelling house of Ira Russell, Jr. day night with all its contents. The family had only time to escape from the house

WHAT THE MEN WOLLD DO. Suppose that all the bonds, ties, and conone at present existing through marriage were suddenly to be sundered-supfi short, that, without damage done moral or social order, every existing, out, or possible marriage were to be ashed, upon one particular day, and peoallowed to form new combinations for the rest of their lives—how many of the ound the question in no cynical mood ever; and certainly without the least n that such an abrogation of marriage simble or probable. But, as a mere ilstion, imagine that every married ad woman were legally and morally light, to morrow morning to go and sometody else; and then try to antiernee the extraordinary results of such a society devulsion. That a large number would, due to have their present bonds annulied is certain. That a large number would, der their past experiences, be more

tally braid of marrying again, is probable. That some husband's and wives, who had hithern been remarkable for their affectionate bearing toward each other in publie, won), seize the first moment to fly assunder, is also probable. That not a few would leave their spouses, and marry other people's spouses, similarly set free, is, we regret to believe, possible. And that a large proportion of the people who would a short time begin to regret them, and to vish for a return of the old state of affairs, e may take for granted.

Fully to realize the speculation, we must sie absolute freedom to every man and woman. There shall be no question of narriage sottlements or the care of children ntervening. Like sparrows in spring ime, all our worthy neighbors shall pair off according to their free personal whim, caprice, liking, or love. Allowing six he for the necessary routine of courtship and marriage, let us examine some of he probable results of the general election. Let us note the odd marital freaks which

ould occur in the grand square of the meopolis. No 5 and No. 7 suddenly change dstresses, while No. 8 receives a new mis sa, and is sorry to see the old one unwiling to go. The gaunt colonel who visits while her husband does not seem to pros er in his suit with the widow opposite. And imagine the excuses that so many men would invent for the sudden deseron of their companion for many years! 'My Jear, I never had the heart to tell on, but I always did dislike the color of

'Why did you marry me, then?' 'Why, you know, Effic Langston had ust thrown me over, and I was ready to marry anybody; and you know you half 'Wrotch! And now you will go and mar

y that girl Langston; with the affected smirk, and consumption in the family, as you know well enough." The to if Effe is not married al-eady. But the idea of her remaining un-narried for ten minutes, if she could get myrade as leads and, is abourd.

And a nice creature for you to make

our wife. However, go sir! Major Haterton will see that I am not allowed to

'Ah! (with weak spite,) I thought be could become your guardian angel." Then the disappointments of jilted lovers. Of course every filted lover imagines that his fickle friend of former days has long ago repeated her of that precipitate ares to himself a weary wife, also sitting by the fire, and thinking sadly of her old ver. 'If it were only possible,' he sight o himself, for her to annul that hateful parriage, would she not come to me, and eg for forgiveness, and for a little of the great love I used to lay at her feet in the iden time?' She must be miserable, since she has not married him. Every disap pointed lover will tell you that his ladywe is 'mated with a clown,' and he speak of her in tones of tender compassion, and wishes to his friends that he could do so thing to make her happy. And so, when he hears of this great day of universal free dom, his soul leaps within him. The poor ock : but now the gallant Perseus cleaves the green sea toward her, blowing the white four from his lips, and laughing in joyous anticipation of his victory and her enrapt

We will say that the modern Perseu-drives up to Andromeda's door in a Hanoto cab. Having sent up his card, be walks, bat in hand, into the drawing-room A few minutes afterward, Andromeda eners, calm, cold-with a smile on her face, ertainly, but yet the formal smile with which women greet visitors whom they

'He is not at home?' asks Perseus, eager 'He? Whom?' she asks withdrawing a tep, and regarding him with a smile a old as that of the sea-dragon; 'do you nean my husband?

'He is not at home.'
'An, Polly, have we met at last!' he exlaims passionately. 'After so many years of bitterness-after so many days and nights of cruel memories-have we met at And now, dearest, you will recompense my

'Mr. Perseus,' she says in a stately way yet retreating toward the door, 'you are ery kind; but I am not aware that I have given you cause to imagine I wished hange my husband. On the contrary, 1 have never thought of such a thing; and and-I wish you good morning.

n a range of lower feelings and a narrower heart than nurmurs the miserable Perseus, as he umps into his cab again, and inconcrent ly orders the cabman to drive him to the

There is no doubt, in such an eventuali y, that married people would profit by the great experience of each which me as given them. It does not at all follow that such experience must necessarily be lisappointing. As a general rule marriage destroys idealisms; but these idealisms are the fruit of ignorance or want of insight, for which the person idealized is not responsible; while marriage, on the other any lady but herself proved to be only a hand, reveals, more frequently than is supposed, graces of character and disposition posed, graces of character and disposition which were never dreamed of. The artist or author, or man of science, who, pursed own folly in marrying the girl whose pretty face has bewitched him, who rather fan-cies he is throwing himself away on a merc society girl, who has not the brain ever to has intervened. But when a woman has building, and insured for about \$1,100, be his close companion—finds himself, in a year or two, slowly discovering the won-

ance. Perhaps the husband was not so pro found an intellectual analyst as he imagined himself to be, and wholly failed to perceive the worth of his wife when he marri ed her; perhaps marriage was the proces necessary to develop, sustain, and render permanent and endurable these beautiful qualities. The effect of marriage on th character of woman is very great; and it is this development which would be taken into account if everybody were free to marry somebody else. Tom, Dick, and Harry marry three sisters. In their period of maidenhood, the girls were searcely distinguishable from each other in point of tem-perament, inclination and disposition. Half-a-dozen years afterward a wonderful change is apparent. It is now clear that Tom, the big, good natured soldler, ought to have married Dick's wife, who is handsome, dull-headed, quick-tempered woman fond of gayety, and passionately devoted to horses; whereas Dick, the clergyman, with his grand idealisms of self-abnega-tion, with his studious habits and morbid sensitiveness, instead of having such wife, should have married her sister, the pious, charitable, literary little women whom Tom, the soldier, finds so preposte.

the proper proportion of decently success ful marriages-one out of three, That girls are so uncommonly like each other is partly due, doubtless, to the modesty of the period, which prevents their do ing or saying anything prononce, and partly to the formality of their training, the highest virtue of which is propriety, or the art of being like other people. Besides, it eral subject. The churches whose experimust be honestly confessed that most men marry for some outward personal attraction, which is either there or imagined to be there. Whatever character may happen to lie underneath is taken on chance, and discovered afterward, when the freer atmosphere and larger opportunities of marriage bring forth these latent peculiarities. To any man who is past the idealizing period of life the talk f girls is, as a rule, insufferably insipid: if you want brightness, wit, sureasm, frank good nature, or even lofty philanthropic aspirations, you must seek the society of married women. Not only, therefore, does a man gain experience of his own wife during a few years of marriage, but he is able judge of the character of other women who have married in the same time. He sees what a remarkably cheerful wife his consin has got, now that the girl, removed from the tyrannical gloom of her aunt's

ously dull. That Harry, the stockbroker,

should have found a suitable mate, makes

household, has thrown off the oppressive, frigid dryness of her old manner. He sees bow another friend has married the girl whom he, at one time, very much wished to marry; and how she has fallen into re ligious monomania, and is miserable, and keeps every one around her miserable, be-cause she is troubled about the doctrine of staction. All these various experiences and innumerably more, which every reader must be aware could be culled from his own general shifting of conditions as that we

mention. The new combinations formed in this gathered light of experience would be, without a doubt, a little surer than those at present existing. Vould they allow the men and wee marry off more evenly than they do at presout? Quite the reverse. At present we have two or three men wanting to marry the same woman; then we should hav twenty. Increased knowledged would so exhibit this or that woman's qualities that all the men of her acquaintance would deermine to marry her. At present, as we say, girls are married pretty much on wives they are likely to make; and it is a vise provision of nature to throw an idealistic glamour over us and them, at this partake the risk. Nature kindly shuts our eyes as we leap over the precipice. But if we could anticipate the experience of the next dozen years, and see that Clara, whom we marry, would turn out a slovenly and ill-tempered person, and that Julia, whom ve only think of marrying, would turn out a brilliant and fascinating woman, an ad nirable mother, a generous friend, a witty and pleasant companion, of course we should marry Julia. Something of the same kind would ensue from sudden concession c

reedom of choice. By that time Julia's wifely qualities would be developed, patent admired of everybody; and on the very norning of the new era you would find her with twenty or thirty suitors. Now, for wenty men to wish to marry one won involves a disturbance of the numerical narrying relations of the sexes; and this disturbance, indefinitely extended, would, under such a condition of affairs, precipiate the most terrible catastrophes. We hinted that one in three might be tak en as the proportion of wholly successful

marriages—in which both parties are pleas ed with their choice, remain through life the fastest friends, and preserve intact the love that first drew them together. And yet, if absolute freedom to form new combinations were granted, we believe that a large majority of married couples would mmense deal to do with one's comfort. theer habit would keep together a man and woman who long ago had lost that special nderness for each other which marked their lover period. Perhaps neither is so sensitively anxious for affection as to carmuch about its absence, and is quite willing to regard quiet comfort and friendly in erchange of obliging offices as all that is ecessary to render married life happy But, in any case, the majority of married people would rather remain as they are, if nly through the dread of the bother of sepa rating. How do they know that they would better their condition? Besides, the thought of parting would suddenly bring into relief a thousand excellences of mind and char acter in their partner which they had quite overlooked. A schoolboy recognizes th ratue of his penknife only at two periodswhen he gets it, and when, after a more o less protracted space of indifference, he loses it. The admirable manner in which widow will forthwith discover the most exalted virtues in the character of her hus hand, the moment he is dead, although she was constantly complaining of him while he was alive, may be taken as an indication up with intellectual pride, half-pities his of the position of a woman to whom separation from her husband is offered. The legal separations which at present take place are generally cases in which gross cruelty nothing against her husband but a vague

derful facets of a pure and keenly spark- Crichton she functed him to be before their on the ground, to the merriment of lookers derful meets of a pure and accent sparking mind, that lay underneath the young
wife's almost bubylish manner. He begins
to be astonished by her womanly prudence;
by her fortitude, her forbearance; by the utterly unselfish love which she offershim, If would leave us married pretty much as extreme violence against the curb-stone as a poor gift searcely worthy of his accept- we are now, with the same quiet content, or weak aspiration for another and better just then a gentleman was discovered condition, which we cannot very clearly sprawling upon the ground with his loft define.-Home Journal.

THE PREE SEAT STATEM.

BY REV. EDWARD ABBOTT.

Shall the pews of our churches be bought and sold and held as so much real estate, thus making the dedication of the church, as some at least regard it, a piece of mock-ery? Shall they be rented even, yeary, under the hammer of the autioneer, the choice seats being borne off, as at Jenny Lind's concerts, by the highest bidders? Or shall the doors of our houses of worship o thrown open, the people welcomed thereto without distinction or condition, and ome other method than rents or taxation be adopted to meet the expenses of preaching the gospel? This is a problem which and there are not a few, earnest-indicious, tion stands at the very threshold of the vangelization of men.

By the free seat system is not meant such system as relieves men's pockets from tributing to the support of the gospel, but one that secures religious privileges to all, without affixing thereto a price, the nayment of which is made a condition. The writer of this article has taken pains

o make inquiries of several pastors whose burches, a few only among the many, have adopted the free seat system, and proposes here to present the result of such inquiries as a slight contribution of facts to the genence we will enter here, are as follows: 1. Church in Springfield, Ill. Capacity

Average congregati (bouse just opened) 200. Church membership, 90. Expenses, \$2,500. To meet these, yearly subscriptions, payment in monthly installments, are solicited at the beginning of the year. These are collected by the reasurer in advance, who receives two per ent commission for the labor. The subscriptions considerably overrun the expenses. No allotment of seats. 2. Church in Cincinnati, Ohio, Size of

house and congregation not given. Subcriptions payable quarterly. All persons and families so desiring have special seats assigned them. 3. Peoria, Ill. Congregation averages

500, Church membership 120. Cards are distributed at the opening of the year on which individuals disposed place the sum which they will give weekly, monthly, or vearly. Payments are deposited in a box by the church door, which is in the treasurer's custody. Having the names of all ubscribers, he credits each with every payment, while no one but himself knows the amount given by a particular person. Fasily raise \$2,300. 4. Nowask, N. J. Capacity of house 300. Church membership, 90. Yearly subscrip-

tions payable in weekly installments immediate circle-would tell upon such a which are collected at the Sabbath evening services by the passing boxes. Seatsailot

ted as with No. 2. 5. Cambridgeport, Mass. Capacity o house, 450. Average congregation, say, 350. Church membership, 160. Cards are But would they be in the least degree distributed at the beginning of the year on more satisfactory as social adjustments? which subscribers write their names and the amount which each will give per week. These cards are returned to the Treasurer and payments collected as with No. 3. Possessed of a charming wife and beautiful concubin Amount of subscription for 1869, upwards of \$2 000. No allotment of seats. The pastors of these five Churches con

ur in the statements of the following advantages as accruing from the carrying out | He purchased thousands and tens of thousands of ter of this theory :

1. It satisfies our consciences. lieve thas it is the right method of holding our churches, and meeting the expenses of 2. We find that it stimulates increased

liberality on the part of the wealthier members of our congregations, who will give 3. That it opens a way for the poorer portion of the congregation to do their little

part, which the system of rented or owned and taxed pews effectually prevents their doing. Every one is thus afforded an op-portunity of contributing according to their ablility, which is the only true measure of duty. pastors of these are not troubled with empty pows, but as a general thing preach to

full congregations. The people will attend free churches as they will not others. 5. It does away with moneyed distinc-tions in the house of God. They have no place here. The amount of a man's subscription is not known, nor does it determ ine the location of his seat. Those who are less able are just as likely to get an eligible

6. And finally, it is a popular plan. The Church like it. Strangers like it. The middle class like it, who are neither rich nor poor. In the last named of the above mentioned churches, to say nothing of the others, the congregation would not adopt either of the commen methods under any consideration, and individuals who were ever skeptical as to the expediency and feasibility of the plan are now firm con-

It is to be wished that some of our large and more consplcuously influential churches would give this plan a fair trial. The details may be varied according to circum stances, and the best practical methods for carrying out the theory may not yet bave been devised, but the theory is the right one, and it must yet be adopted as one step in the great work of the present hour, the carrying of the gospel of Jeans Christ to the masses of men. - Congregat

As a horsebackist, we have been called a er occasion we rode a brindle cow home from a fair, not to add to our comfort, but to pay the aforesaid bovine for not drawing had found nothing that was not highly the premium. On another occasion we un-dertook to ride a speckled steer, but for some reason or other, his finis department had a sudden inclination to elevate itself ito hear." The Count, ignorant of his bad into the air, and we dismounted over his habit, blushed, but like a brave man, rehead, simply because the mane of the beast | plied: "Tell the bishop that if all the gifts" did not amount to much for hanging-on which men make to one another were like purposes. On another occasion we rode a sawmill saw for half an hour, but we never are. For his great courtesy and liberality

ness that he is not the Admirable | terwards a gentleman was discovered lying

More merriment. Another attempt-and sprawling upon the ground with his left car full of mud. More merriment—but not on the part of the victim. Pretty soon we got well under way, but with the aid of two men to push and a small boy to steer, while we were getting use to the contriv-But at such an hour as we knew not of our assistants departed from us. We oring to turn out for a young lady, cramped the wrong way, collided, took her on the invention in front of us, and we both went off together, to the damage of a ten dollar hat and a twenty-three dollar Greelan hend. parted with much quickness, never more to return. As for the lady, we pray the Lord to pardon her for the feelings she entertains towards us, for really, we could not help it!

cross the street, and accidentally ran our contrivance plump against the hind end of industrious velocipede took a secot to the left, landing in the gutter! Such a nice place to put your feet! Good deal like sitting on a grindstone, turning it with your toos. Aside from the delightful sensation experienced, it stmins the muscles, and is nore wearing open garments. Riding s two-story Indian hog, just turned loose to comparison with this invention. Sliding fown hill on a hand-saw, tooth side up, would be two degrees more comfortable than experimenting with one of these contrivances-but then it's fashionable! If any of our readers have a suit of clothes that they wish to spoll, seven or eight pairs of legs they would lame for seven weeks, a high finished and moral back they don't care for, fifteen or sixteen yards of court plaster, a dozen or more new hats, several pairs of boots, and the Lord only knows how many coat tails to spoil, let him buy a velocipede and commence at once. To pur chase one of the confounded things requires but a small fortune; say twice as much as is necessary to purchase a handcart, which is by far the most comfortable to ride on; while a few dollars extra would last about four hours for insurance against accidents Go and try it. Buy one. Rush around with it. But first, employ a physician by the month to doctor you for all bruises contusions, sprains, rheumatism, com pound, vulgar, and improper fractions, and every ailment under the sun, when you may be happy yet. We have tried it-it is nice. The next day the velocipede went off as smoothly as usual, but as to its rider, that's altogether another matter. We have not been able to walk up and down stairs without the aid of a cane for a week. Have hardly spoken a good-natured word for a fortuight. Our best pants are at the tailor's, and not less than ninety-three bottles of liniment stand grimning at us from every room we occupy during the day. If there is nome fellow you have a spita against probability, he will bring an action against you for which intent to murder, or at least, assault and battery, and make his action stick. nice. The next day the velocipede went Yours, on two wheels, BRICK POMEROY.

Translation of a Chinese Ode on Dis-A man busily employed all day becomes hungry: When hunger is satisfied he thinks of clothing; Aburdantly supplied with food and clothing.

He mourns that he has in his house no fair-eyed wil He finds that he is without suitable vehicles for appea

His land is found iosufficient to supply his want

He regards the seventh and fifth rank with diss And the fourth and third are also too low for hi

He conceives the wish of being emperor a short time more in such a a way for the support of the gospel than they will in the payment of power or taxes.

His desires gratined, he becomes the Son of Heaven. And again wishes for ten thousand ages to escape death, the numerous and foolish lengtings know no stopping-

At lest a coffin forever hides him, " And he passes away still hugging his discontent

TABLE MANYERS.

A goodly number of persons have undertaken to tell us what to eat. We are pretty well up in that. But there is want of some one who shall tell us how to eat it. Every body eats, Very few know how to. Robert Collyer says in his sermon at Detroit, that "men are sometimes mistaken for may sometimes be mistaken for? At a tavern dinner, or a steamboat supper, or the wayside depots, where the ever-eating Yankee runs a muck against the refreshment-man and the locomotive whistle, one puts up with a good deal; while he shudiers at what humanity becomes when the inner cupboard is bare. Good eating man ners are among the rarest graces. Eye and ear are terribly offended, where appear ments and general culture lead you to hope something better. One would rather do a good many things than sit next a good many people, not so much because their elbows are thrust into your side, or their superfluous victuals deposited in your lap or the conventional fork is abandoned for the capacious knife, as because of the clatter and cla mor, the munch and crunch, the smack and champ, with which mouths, always open, celebrate their carnival. It is a simple thing to eat with one's mouth shut and so reduce to a nearer harmony with divine things the act so necessary to our lives, so wedded with our hospitalities, but which at best cannot be redeemed of some of its very human attributes. There is a good thing I remember in Mrs. Lowell's "Seed-Grain." A nobleman had stopped at a bishop's residence, and won the good will of his bost by his courtly address, but thought he should be informed "lest it might be to his prejudice." Sending a trusccess. Once we rode a mule. On anoth- ty servant with him when he resumed his journey, he bade him, at the right moment, give his friendly warning. It was this, "he commendable and agreeable except an ugiy motion of the mouth and lips when eating accompanied with a noise very disagreeable tried it again.

But we did try the velocipede. We got sure him that I will hereafter diligently astride of it, and started. Immediately af- guard against my evil habit. God go with