

all her life. It would be infamy for her, however young, to marry a second time.

In cities and small townships it is considered a great offence against modesty and custom whenever a woman is met on the public streets in the daytime, and they quit their apartments hardly ever during the day. To indemnify them for this strictly kept-up seclusion, the following remarkable arrangement has been made : at nine o'clock in the evening, during the summer, and at an earlier hour during the winter, the city gates of Seoul and other towns are closed at a given signal. As soon as this has taken place all men are bound to leave the streets, and these are abandoned to the women for the purpose of recreation and promenading. Any male finding himself, by accident, belated and behind the appointed time in the streets, is sure to hurry to his house as fast as possible, without looking up or regarding about him ; and severe punishment would fall upon any persons daring, in the face of the stringent prohibition, to molest women in the least. Good breeding demands from any man (and this is always done) to cover his face with a fan as soon as he sees a woman.

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