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INTRODUCTION.

The art of match-making and eldest-son hunting having been long since reduced to a science by the mammas of fashionable life, it has been thought desirable to embody the same in writing for the benefit of posterity; and in accomplishing this task the method of Euclid has been followed, both as one which will be universally understood, and as showing more clearly than any other the connection between the successive steps of the science.

DEFINITIONS.

1. An undesirable partner is one who has no town-house, and whose income has no magnitude.

2. A doubtful partner is a title without wealth.

3. The extremities of a ball-room are the best to flirt in.

4. A bad business is the plain inclination of two young people to one another, who meet together, but are not in the same circle.

5. When one fair maiden "sits on" another fair maiden (for "outrageous flirting") so as to make the adjacent company notice her, each of the listeners will call it jealousy, and the fair maiden who sits on the other fair maiden will be called "too particular" by them.

6. An obtuse angler is one who does not hook an eldest son.

7. An acute angler is one who does hook an eldest son.

8. A term of endearment is the extremity of a flirtation.

9. A blue-stocking is a plain figure having one decided line which is called her erudition, and is such that when forming the centre of a circle all young men will be found equally distant from that centre.

10. A figure is that which is compressed by a more or less confined boundary.

11. A good figure is that compressed within an inch of the owner's life.

12. Dull partners are such as, being drawn out ever so well in all directions, do not talk.

POSTULATES.

Let it be granted—

1. That an eligible young man may be drawn by skilful management from any one young lady to any other young lady.

2. That an engagement for one dance may be prolonged to any number of dances by a few fibs.

3. That a visiting circle may be extended to any extent from a West-end square, and may be made to include a marquis at any distance from that square.

AXIOMS.

1. If your daughter be married to a nobody the match is unequal

2. If your daughter be married to a duke, the match is equal.

3. Elder sons are preferable to younger sons.

4. If wealth be added to younger sons, the two are equal.

5. If wealth be taken from elder sons, the two are equal.

6. Two short lines may enclose a proposal.

7. If one young lady meet with too much attention, so as to make the inferior angels on either side of her equal to tear her eyes out; this conduct, if continually repeated, shall at length meet with such reprobation at

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