

CUPID'S ODD PRANKS.

WHY SOME WOMEN FELL IN LOVE WITH THEIR HUSBANDS.

Familiar Reasons That at Times Influence the Fair Sex in Matters of the Heart—The Woman Who Won and Wedded a Woman Hater.

If there is one question more than another to which it is difficult to get or give a satisfactory answer it is surely this: "Why did you fall in love with your husband?" In 10 cases out of 20 woman would probably confess candidly that she did not know or else she would declare conclusively that she did because she did, and that ought to end the matter.

In the rare cases where the lady condescends to declare her reason the answers are both interesting and instructive.

"Whatever made you marry the prisoner?" a London magistrate asked a woman whose face bore "striking" evidence of her husband's affection. "Because he punched all the other fellows' heads," she answered, "and nobody else dared make love to me."

Another good lady confessed that she fell in love with her husband because he was the "only man who ever dared to snub her." While other men were stumbling over each other to pay her court and attention, he always treated her with absolute indifference and even rudeness.

The consequence was that she determined to bring him to her feet and his knees. She succeeded, but lost her heart in the attempt.

"I fell in love with my husband," one lady recently declared, "because he was the only man about whom no one was ever heard to say an unkind word. Even the women, although he paid them no special attention, were agreed that he was 'a dazling' and, although he was plain, almost to ugliness, and old enough almost to be my father, I loved him and determined to marry him long before he had any such thought of me."

Not long ago a Yorkshire lady of wealth and beauty shocked her friends by marrying a poor cripple. It had come to her ears that he had long loved her in silence and had counted each day happy if he only caught a distant glimpse of her. She discovered that he was a devoted son and brother and a man of unusual gifts and culture for his humble position, and moved by one of those sudden, generous impulses to which some women are liable, she sought an interview with him, told him that she had learned his secret and offered him her hand and fortune. This may appear a strange and improbable thing, but thousands know that it is literally true.

Another lady whose marriage resulted from a similar impulse gives this explanation of it. Among the friends of her family was an old bachelor with a reputation for earnestness who had known her from a child and had often nursed her in early days. To her he had always been gentle and kind, and she had loved him "in a way" as long as she could remember.

One day she said, "Why have you never married, Mr.?" "Marry, my dear? Why, no one would ever marry a grumpy old man like me!"

"Of course they would," she answered indignantly. "Why? I would marry you myself!"

"Thank you, my dear!" came the unexpected answer. "Then will you consider the matter ended?"

In spite of her surprise and misgivings the girl loyally kept her promise, and she has never had reason to regret her "moment's indiscretion." A lady friend of the writer married her husband for the very illogical reason that he was an avowed woman hater. He made no secret of his aversion to the fair sex and declared it so constantly that, as she says, "I vowed I would convert him and make him change his mind, at least so far as one of my sex was concerned." It was not difficult to convert, for within 12 months he had forsaken his creed so far as to conduct one of the "hated sex" to the altar, and now he declares that he "loves them all."

Many valleys described in guide-books as "whispering valleys" are favorite resorts for tourists in all parts of the world. Few, however, exceed in wonder a valley at Stanfield in Essex, England. The rector of this parish in giving a careful account of his own experiences states that his house stands on a hill 288 feet above sea level, rising in rear to 300 feet, while in front the ground slopes away to a stream 100 feet below and again rises 180 feet on the opposite side. From the rectory the bells of 14 or 15 villages may be distinguished, while across the valley footsteps and voices in conversational tone may be heard at half a mile.

Domestic Joys. Meeks—My wife prefers coffee for breakfast and I prefer tea. Weeks—Then I suppose you have both? Meeks—Oh, no. We compromise. Weeks—In what way? Meeks—We compromise on coffee.

Milk and Water. "Pa," said little Willie, "why do they speak of the 'milk in the cocoon'?" "It's more like water." "Exactly," replied Mr. Cittman. "And that's why they call it milk, very probably."

Whales are never found in the gulf stream.



How Strong Are You?

The dial of the punching machine won't answer that question. Strength depends on nutrition. When the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition are diseased, the body fails to receive its full supply of nourishment and hence grows weak. That is why no man is stronger than his stomach.

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TOUR SHORTENED.

Ottawa, Ont., Sept. 11.—It is settled that the Duchess of Cornwall and York will not visit British Columbia. She will accompany the Duke as far as Banff, and after a brief visit there will return to Poplar Point, 40 miles west of Winnipeg, and there await the return of his Royal Highness. This arrangement has been made on the advice of the physician accompanying the Royal party, and is necessary on account of the Duchess' delicate condition of health.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier will be the only member of the Government to accompany the Duke on his transcontinental trip.

BEAT LINE.

Small grain threshing is nearly all done. Corn cutting is the order of the day in this part.

Miss Alice Harris has returned home after a week's visit with friends in Elizabeth.

Mrs. Jas. Sterling, of Blenheim, is visiting at her sister's, at this place. Among the many who visited the Pan-American were T. Doyle, P. Dunphy, C. W. Wright, E. Hind, M. Boyle, Mrs. Adams, and sister Mrs. J. Foy, most of them returning home on Saturday and Sunday. They report a good time, and plenty of sight-seeing.

Fred. Chapple intends to start clover threshing soon. Joe. Bishop and wife, and Geo. C. Bishop and wife visited friends in Tilbury East last week.

KILLED WITH A STONE.

Port Burwell, Sept. 11.—John Ball, who has been working on the government job in the harbor here, was fatally injured yesterday about 11 p. m. He was engaged along with others in unloading stones from a scow. The men had to change the position of the scow, and Ball helped to do it. One of the men above thought the way was clear, and he threw a stone weighing about forty pounds, off the boat. Ball was standing below and it struck him on top of the head. Ball was rendered unconscious, and did not rally. He died at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The stone fell a distance of seven feet. Ball resided at Cling Lake, near this village. He had been employed on the government job about three months. He was 48 years of age and leaves a widow and seven children.

Books are lighthouses erected in the great sea of time.—E. P. Whipple.

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GUARE SICK HEADACHES.

PRAIRIE DOGS AND RATTLESNAKES.

They May Live Together, but They Are Not the Best of Friends.

"Of course you have heard it said," remarked the man back from the west, "the rattlesnakes and prairie dogs are close friends, rent the same house and make a happy family."

"It certainly is a fact that the reptile is generally found in the prairie dog village. But I was once witness of a little scene which went far to prove to me, at least, that a prairie dog loves a rattlesnake somewhat less than is commonly supposed. I was riding after cattle in Wyoming not far from the Colorado line when it came off."

"Prairie dogs form the principal crop in those parts, and their quaint antics never failed to amuse me. On this particular occasion I had managed to get close to a colony and waited for developments. Considerably apart from the others, two dogs were sitting with their noses close together. They appeared to be very much concerned over the movements of a big rattler which was lazily crawling about near them. When the snake moved a length or two, the dogs became excited and danced like little lunatics, but if the rattler ceased his motion there were the cute little cusses, with their noses together, arranging somehow to keep abreast of his majesty when it came off."

"Once the snake coiled, and then the dogs had business elsewhere, but when he straightened out they were on deck again. The rattler in the course of his wriggles came to a hole and stopped there, as though undetermined as to whether it would be worth while to enter or not. Now the prairie dogs began to act in the most unaccountable manner, as though they had been feeding on loco weed and had suddenly felt the effects. They danced on one hind foot and rolled over. They dashed up behind the snake as though they were aching to push him into the hole, and ever and anon they would come to attention, with noses together—talking, I suppose, a great deal."

"But they didn't have much time for these goings on, for the snake soon began to slip into the hole. The dogs, though very intent upon his movements, remained perfectly quiet until the last of him disappeared. Then they got to work in earnest, and the way they kicked the dirt into that hole was a caution."

"They worked in a systematic manner. When the entrance was well filled with loose dirt, they tramped it, and then threw in more dirt and tramped that. They were not satisfied until the entrance to that hole was blocked and packed down with dirt until it was as solid as the original sod."

"Then the little rascals seemed to be thickened half to death and rubbed noses times innumerable before they slipped off to look for another lay snake. All of which makes me think that, although the rattler lives with the prairie dog, perhaps he comes, like your wife's relations, without invitation and without paying any board."

A Chalk and a Ginger Diet.

I have known many instances of girls, in their foolish desire for a "genteel" paleness, eating dry rice and chalk and refusing so much as a vegetable. Chalk certainly and probably rice eaten in excess in this way would tend indirectly to induce pallor by deranging the digestive organs and obstructing the normal secretions of the body. Habitual constipation alone is a frequent cause of anemia.

Half a century ago the plump and rosy cheeks of a Buckinghamshire village found that they, with their robust charms, were neglected by local avoines, who favored pale and languishing maidens from the metropolis. To construct this diet to be in complete agreement of the body, they succeeded more or less in producing pallor and sickness of appearance, but the young men were not attracted, and after one of the "ginger chokers" as they were called, died the practice happily declined.

Only Wanted Time.

One night a group of men were talking in the smoking room of the house of commons about a measure which it was proposed to recommend to the consideration of the government and on which every allusion was to be in complete agreement. Suddenly a member who had up to this time offered no objection and had, indeed, sat in absolute silence—though he was well known for an extraordinary aptitude for being out on the most trivial subject—broke in with the words, "I suppose there is something to be said on the other side." "I dare say there is," Thomas Sexton observed, "and if we had a couple of months to spare you are just the very man to say it; but, then, you see, the matter is coming on the day after tomorrow, and there really is no time." So the little group broke up.

Disinfecting.

In disinfecting a room it is desirable to seal it as tight as possible. This may be done by pasting together newspaper strips cut two inches wide, with a preparation made by soaking two teaspoonfuls of powdered gum tragacanth in one pint of cold water for an hour and then placing the bowl containing it in a pan of boiling water and stirring until the gum is all dissolved. Six of the strips should be pasted together, and then pasted over all cracks of doors and windows, leaving the exit door to be sealed after the fumigator has been started. Gum tragacanth is easily washed off and does not discolor paint or woodwork.

So Does She.

"Oh, papa," cried Marie, "do you know the meanings of Christian names? 'William' means good. I wonder what 'Arthur' means?" And the girl blushed—oh, so prettily! "Papa put on his severest aspect," was the reply. "I hope Arthur means business," was the reply.

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