

TRIAL MARRIAGES.

Queer Old Custom That Existed For Ages In Scotland.

"Handfasting" was a custom that existed for ages in Scotland. The contracting parties met at the annual fairs in their several districts. There young men chose the maids who best pleased them. They joined hands and by that act became man and wife until the corresponding day of the following year. If the love and fortunes of the pair had prospered during the year, on the anniversary of their meeting they were legally married by the priest; if all had not been well, then they parted.

The practice is supposed to have arisen from the scarcity of clergy. If the pair decided to part at the end of the twelvemonth, the bride was at liberty to marry another man, her apprenticeship to matrimony not carrying with it any reproach to her. Such marriages were by custom made legal. Any issue resulting from the union would in the case of a second marriage be taken by the father and rank as if the children of the marriage which lasted for life.

Many weddings were unmade at the end of the year, but it was dangerous at the initiative were taken by the man who had wedded the kinswoman of a chief. When a Macdonald of Sleat waived himself of his right to send back the sister of a Macleod of Dunagaven, the latter resented it as an indignity. "He had no bonfire to celebrate his wedding, but he shall have one to solemnize his divorce," Macleod swore. He kept his word, and a terrible vendetta between the clans resulted.

ODDITIES IN GRAVES.

Woman Who, Born, Living and Dying Cross, Was Buried Cross.

There is a curious old gravestone in Prestbury churchyard which records the fact that one woman at least in England died a bachelor. Her name was Sarah Pickford, and the stone gravely informs the reader she was there interred "August 17, Anno Dom. 1703, and died a Bachelor in the 48th year of her age."

A stone in Westminster abbey records the interment there of George Graham, who was the only workman that received the honor of being buried in Westminster abbey. He was a scientific instrument maker, who in 1700 invented the deadbeat escapement in clocks. His funeral was attended by the Royal society in a body.

In East Ham churchyard there is a tombstone placed crossways. The woman interred is said to have been born cross, lived cross, married a Mr. Cross and died cross. Her dying request was to be buried cross, and this was carried out.

As to more ancient graves, that of Noah is reported to be in the small town of Nakhichevan, near the foot of Mount Ararat, and is sixty feet in length. Another tradition says that the grave is merely a niche in the wall of an abandoned fortress.—London Chronicle.

A Direct Appeal.

A story is told of a New York car conductor who had once been in the ministry and who retained some of his former ways of speech in his new calling. He had been at the front of the car collecting fares, and when he returned to his platform a well disposed person told him that a man had boarded the car at Houston street and had found a place inside. The conductor stepped inside the doorway and ran his mild gaze up and down the car, but could not be sure which of the tightly packed passengers was the late arrival. "Will the gentleman who got on at Houston street please rise?" he asked calmly.

The gentleman rose involuntarily, and, with a bow and a "Thank you!" the conductor collected his fare.

Irving's Uphill Fight.

When Irving first appeared in a certain midland town critics declared that this curious mannerisms of voice, gait and gesture destroyed his chances of becoming a great actor. How Irving confounded his critics by creating triumph after triumph and redeeming the English stage from the charge of mediocrity is now a matter of history. This great Shakespearean actor rose from the ranks to the head of his profession by sheer force of his histrionic power, ability and originality. And withal he was one of the most kindly of men, generous to a fault when the distress and troubles of others came under his notice.—London Mail.

Adam and Eve.

Adam was making his avowal to Eve. "No power shall ever take you from my side," he declared fervently. "That's a pretty rash promise, isn't it?" inquired Eve, winking, "since you know I was taken from your side the first thing after you arrived here?" "Perceiving that the woman was giving him a rib-roast, Adam went off sulking in the apple orchard.—Exchange.

He Was Right.

"See here," feebly complained the victim after the accident, "I thought you said it was perfectly safe to go up in that old elevator?" "Well," replied the elevator man, "so it was safe to go up. You see, the dangerous part of it was comin' down."

Considerate.

Mr. Younghub—Did you bake this bread, darling? Mrs. Younghub—Yes, dear. Mr. Younghub—Well, please don't do anything like that again. You are entirely too light for such heavy work.



MRS. ANNA F. COSTON.

Inventor and Maker of Distress Signals Used at Sea.

To look at Mrs. Anna F. Coston as she sits at her desk in her little office in lower New York one would never guess that she is an inventor and manufacturer of so grim, so unfeminine, so implicitly tragic a commodity of merchandise as distress signals for use at sea—signals of such conspicuous excellence, too, that they have been adopted by the army and navy, the revenue service and the life saving and lighthouse bureaus, besides being approved and recommended by the department of commerce and labor. With her fresh complexion, laughing blue eyes, carefully marcelled pompadour and dainty lingerie waist, Mrs. Coston might be anything on earth sooner than the head of a commercial enterprise and the inventor of a signal that goes wherever sails spread and steam drives on the waters of the navigable globe.

"I was born and educated right here in New York," said Mrs. Coston. "As a girl I did a good deal with chemistry, and later I worked at it with a tutor in Germany. After my marriage my husband's poor health made it desirable that I should familiarize myself



MRS. ANNA F. COSTON.

with the details of marine signal manufacture, and when in 1901 he died as the result of an accident in his laboratory I was able to step into his place. The Coston signal—the red flare, burning more than a minute on shore—had been in use by the United States life saving service ever since that service was organized, but what first brought it to my mind the necessity of adapting it to the uses of a distress signal for use by ships at sea was the disaster to the Bourgogne, when her lifeboats were out three nights, unable to signal any passing vessel.

"I consider the development of our distress outfit my most important work. All passenger steamships, freight steamers, tugboats, barges, excursion steamers and merchant ships are compelled to carry it by order of the board of supervising inspectors. "I have also invented a telegraphic code of night signals that has been adopted and is in use by the United States weather bureau and the army signal and transport services. Carrying out my husband's work, I developed a code of steamship night signals which the companies have registered at Washington the same as their funnel marks and private flags. They constitute in part the brands or trademarks of the various concerns and are guarded with the utmost jealousy."

Mrs. Coston's laboratory and factory are on Staten Island, and the work in these busy places receives her personal supervision.—New York Tribune.

A Change of Dress.

A woman's dress is her source of greatest personal comfort or otherwise. All the way from a fresh ribbon in her lingerie to her best street costume she cannot undervalue the importance of taste and neatness and comfort.

One thing of first consideration is the change of dress. This has more to do with her peace of mind than she usually realizes. Cleanliness is the keynote to everything healthy and everything beautiful. No less is it the keynote to everything comfortable.

If one would stop and think of all the virtues of "change" of all the ways in which it is preached—one would begin to place some confidence in it. There is change for the eyes, the mind, the nerves, the muscles, the stomach. Then why not the dress as often as it is practical and comfortable? Clothes certainly last longer through frequent rests.

Nothing is so refreshing after coming in from a country tramp or wearisome journey through city streets as a pair of cozy slippers, a soft evening blouse, a trailing, dainty skirt and hair combed and smoothed into order. The more complete the change of costume the greater the comfort. The greater the comfort the better the health. Muscles relaxed and a clean soft skin, flesh soothed by change of material, all exert a restful and freshening influence over the body.

Dressing the Windows.

Nothing spoils the appearance of a house more than window shades of a hue which does not correspond with the paint of the woodwork or which

are carelessly left, one raised, the other lowered. Lace curtains should be pinned carefully into place for a week or two after they are first hung until they settle into the proper lines; otherwise they soon get dragged out of shape and have a most untidy, ungraceful drape, which is particularly noticeable from the outside. A woman would do well to view the effect from the opposite side of the street after putting up her window draperies, for she must remember that she should regard the external appearance of her house quite as much as the inside, and curtains are fundamentally intended as shields from curious eyes without.

The First Teeth.

Children's first teeth should be well cared for. It is a great mistake to think they do not matter, as on their preservation the strength of the second ones depends. The roots of the first teeth are absorbed by the second. This releases the crown of the first, allowing it to come out as easily as if the first tooth had only been stuck on the gum. Even quite small children should be given a toothbrush and taught to clean their teeth night and morning. This will help to keep them in a good state and free from decay and tartar.

Fruites.

How many housewives know that prunes require absolutely no sweetening; that if they are cooked slowly for "hours and hours" there is a sugar from them that nature provides as a sweetening? In other words, they sweeten themselves and if cooked long enough are covered with a rich syrup without one grain of sugar being added to them. The flavor is also improved by this method of cooking them, and the oftentimes despaired prune sauce becomes an enjoyable addition to the table.

Fitting a Bodice.

After the waistband is properly adjusted see that there is a sufficient amount of fullness across the bust line. Formerly, and in many cases still, the amateur in dress to give sufficient fullness at the bust will let the waist out from the underarm seams. This should not be done. All needed fullness at the bust should be let down the center front seam and the underarm seams made to fit snugly. This is necessary in order to keep the sleeves in their proper position.

Planning the Meals.

Fully half the drudgery of planning twenty-one meals a week may be saved by planning all of them at once at the beginning of the week. Take advantage of a leisure hour and write down little menus for each one of the seven days. You will find yourself getting more variety into the meals and unconsciously thinking up new combinations. Stick to it fairly closely in your marketing, though of course you will have to adapt it more or less.

Darkening the Room.

If your room is not provided with green and white shades, a piece of dark green glazed calico or cambric, either planned or stitched on the curtain, will darken the room. This is a very satisfactory arrangement for an invalid or for any one who cannot sleep in a room with light shades. Awnings do not quite take the place of the old fashioned shutters for darkening a room.

Hollow Cheeks.

While a round, pudgy face is not exactly interesting, an extremely thin long one cannot be said to be beautiful. To fill out the hollow cheeks stimulate the circulation and build up the tissues. There is nothing better than the habit of bathing the face with very cold water every morning; also dash cold water on the face at night after the warm, soapy facial tubbing.

Dusting Sheets.

Dusting sheets for covering up furniture, bookcases, etc., when brushing up a room are a necessity in every house. Make these of light calico, cheap chintz or faded chair covers rather than of old bed sheets, which soon wear into holes or tear and allow the dust to sift through. The use of dusting sheets saves much labor and makes the furniture wear longer.

Baked Apples.

Cinnamon and lemon peel make a nice little variation on the regulation baked apple for breakfast. Wash and core your apples, fill the center of each with sugar and add a little cinnamon and lemon peel. Then pour in water enough to fill the lower half of the tin and bake until the apples are tender and the water has thickened into a rich syrup.

Clipping the Hair.

Hair should be clipped two or three times a year to remove split ends and promote growth. If the hair is braided loosely in two braids and the hand drawn up over each braid the loose ends will stand out in a way which makes them easy to clip.

Try fine sandpaper on ivory handled knives that have become yellowed with age. Neither ivory nor wooden handles should ever be allowed to go into water. They should be washed in the hands and immediately dried.

Any silk that has spots of mud on it can usually be cleaned by rubbing well with a piece of dry flannel. If the spots will not come out, try rubbing with a soft cloth wet with alcohol.

Keep a wet sponge in the cabinet with ivory carvings or carvings. It will provide moisture that prevents cracking from dry heat.

Do not nag. A nagging woman is anything but charming, and a charming woman is beautiful.



TACOMA—A popular day wear style suited to large scarf. 2 1/4 inches at back. Comfort-spaced, graceful, easy-fitting. Made in Quarter Sizes.

Irish linen, for surety of staunch service; interlining lessened at wing-folds, so ironing won't fray, doubly-sewn and gutter fastened to give you your money's worth.

20c. Each Demand the brand 3 for 50c.

Music Served Hot.

A photograph which can be heard a mile away is the new French invention, the telephone. The sound is produced by the use of what are called speaking flames, and the principles governing the method were first explained in 1903 by G. C. Porter before the London Physical Society. Mr. Porter found that if a tuning fork be struck and then held in the flame of a Bunsen burner the sound is perceptibly increased. The maximum of sound intensity occurs when the fork is held where the flame is hottest. The French inventor G. Landet uses a record which has the sound vibrations marked not in depth, but in length, and the stylus travels horizontally, like a pendulum. The stylus separates the gas chamber into two parts, and the vibration of the disk opens and closes the gas openings, causing the flow to vary. The sound is so intense that it can be heard a mile away. It can be lessened by regulating the burner, but the power of sound is found to be always proportional to the energy given out during combustion.—Musical Age.

THOUGHT COLD WOULD TURN TO CONSUMPTION

READ HOW DR. WOOD'S NORWAY PINE SYRUP CURED

Saskatoon, Sask., Aug. 26th, 1906. The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

Dear Sirs: As I am one of the thousands that have been benefited by your Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup, I thought it my duty to give you a description of my case. "I am 19 years of age and was always in the best of health until last spring when I caught a severe cold by going about with wet feet. It settled in my chest and all the remedies I tried would not stir it. My friends began to fear it had turned to consumption and were advising me to go east and see a specialist. One day my father brought home a bottle of Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup. I laughed at the idea of it being any good and refused to take it, and only as a last resource would I. When I had finished one bottle I had only a slight cold left and before I had taken a quarter of the next bottle as well as ever I was, if not better, so you can see what God sends the medicine was to me. I never fail to recommend Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup to my friends and they all use it. To show my full appreciation of this remedy I will gladly answer any letters in reference to it. Believe me, Sincerely yours,

Miss Winnifred D. Smith. Price 25 cents a bottle at all dealers.

Sicily's Brigands. How strong is the influence of the brigand in Sicily is shown in recent proceedings at the Catanzaretta assizes, where four of the band of the notorious chief Failla Molone were to be tried. The juryman and witnesses instead of appearing sent a joint petition to the court praying to be excused so long as the chieftain, who has already a dozen assassinations to answer for, remains uncaptured.

THE PUBLIC IS OFTEN FAKED.

Unscrupulous dealers, actuated by large profits, often recommend corn cures "as good as Putnam's." There is only one genuine corn extractor, and that is Putnam's Painless, which is a miracle of efficiency and promptness. Use no other.

Cornelius Vanderhill.

Cornelius Vanderhill is slowly but surely earning his way to the front in the national guard of New York. In 1901 he was elected a second lieutenant in the Twelfth regiment and is now senior first lieutenant in the organization. He has been detailed to the captivity of one of the companies and will soon become a regular captain. The members of the regiment show no jealousy over this promotion, as they say it was earned by good work as a soldier.

Piles get quick relief from Dr. Shoop's Magic Ointment. Remember, it's made alone for Piles—and it works with certainty and satisfaction. Itching, painful, protruding, or blind piles disappear like magic by its use. Try it and see! Sold by C. H. Gunn & Co.

THE REASON.

When that girl fired at the target, why did the man standing behind her duck? Because he was the man behind the gun, you stupid.

The banana skin, like the worm, is apt to turn when trodden upon.

Indigestion, constipation come and go like rent and tax day and other sorrows, if you take Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea, the greatest remedy known to mankind, 35 cents, Tea or Tablets.

A. I. McCall & Co.

ROCHFORD MAGUIRE.

Irishman Who Owe His Amazing Success In Life to a Bath-Alfred Beit's Successor.

Lord Peel's son-in-law, Rochford Maguire, who has succeeded the late Alfred Beit as president of the British South African Co. and as the head of the greatest diamond mine syndicate in the world, is an Irishman, who may be said to owe his amazing success in life to a bath, writes the Marquis de Fontenay. It was in the days when the late Cecil Rhodes sent him on a special mission to King Lobengula for the purpose of securing certain valuable concessions from the all powerful ruler of the Matabeles. It was a perilous mission, as quite a number of white men had met with death at the hands of Lobengula and of his chiefs. However, Rochford Maguire arrived at Lobengula's kraal, was received fairly well, and then proceeded to cleanse himself of the dust and grime of his voyage by means of a bath in his traveling bathtub. This created a tremendous amount of excitement on the part of the natives, and a considerable part of the Matabele nation assembled to witness the proceedings.

Maguire is not a man who loves publicity, but he is a bit of a philosopher, and nothing could be cooler or more deliberate than the way in which he stripped, folded his clothes, and then slipped into the water. The Matabele nation looked on, commenting freely, but as he could not understand a word that did not matter to him. Presently he produced a toothbrush and a box of tooth powder and started brushing his teeth. There they drew the line. The man who puts strange things into his mouth, who foams at his lips, and turns water to milk must necessarily be a "magat" or magician. Yells of astonishment rent the air. A party went off to tell the king, taking the Irish man's paraphernalia, and, what is more, his clothes, Maguire following, wrapped in philosophic calm and nothing else, beyond his hat, which had been left to him.

The king proceeded to sit like an insect upon the brushes and bottles. It was explained to his majesty that the white man actually liked the "stink" of the bottles, and as for the turning of water into milk, the king's mother-in-law happened to die on the self-same day, and his majesty was unfeeling enough to ascribe this divine blessing to the white man's magic. His belief in the latter was further confirmed by a number of conjuring and sleight of hand tricks which Maguire had picked up at Oxford and afterwards in the Orient, and the king took him into such favor that he not only granted him all he asked but many other unexpected concessions, which proved of immense value to Cecil Rhodes and really founded Maguire's fortune.

Rochford Maguire hails from County Limerick, being the son of a Protestant parson, and as a boy was so delicate that he had to resign a naval cadetship, after having graduated from the Britannia. Afterwards he went to Oxford, where he made the acquaintance of Rhodes, who, it may be remembered, returned himself to that university for the purpose of completing his education, after having made a name for himself in South Africa. Maguire did well at Oxford, achieving the same honor as the late Mr. Gladstone of winning a "double first" with his degree. Besides this, he distinguished himself in sports, and rode the winner at the open steeplechase at Christ Church, leaving the alma mater as fellow of all souls, which meant a couple of thousand dollars a year from the university. From Oxford he went to the Bar, from the Bar to Hong Kong as private secretary to the governor, and then joined the diplomatic service. He was assigned to the embassy at Paris, and it is related that on one of the first Sundays after his arrival in the French capital he accompanied his chief, who happened to be Lord Lytton, to the races at Longchamps. The ambassador was wearing a heavy fur coat, which he took off and threw to Maguire. The latter was not accustomed to the Oriental manners which Lord Lytton had acquired as Viceroy of India, and he hung his coat to a flunker, remarking that Lord Lytton must have made a mistake in thrusting it upon him. That ended Maguire's career in the diplomatic service, and he went out to South Africa to join Cecil Rhodes and to obtain for him concessions from King Lobengula by the means above described.

Then came the time when Rhodes became anxious for the support of the Irish in Parliament, and made his donation of \$100,000 to the funds of that party. At the same time he arranged with Parnell to have a personal representative of his own in the councils of the Nationalist camp, and nominated for the purpose Rochford Maguire, who was at once elected for the division of Donegal on the Nationalist ticket at the instance of Parnell. He remained loyal to the latter, even after the split in the Irish party, and the extent to which Parnell appreciated this attitude at a moment when all the men whose political fortunes he had made were turning against him is shown by the fact that he appointed Maguire as one of the executors of his will. Maguire sacrificed his seat for Donegal to his fidelity to Parnell, and not long afterwards married the Hon. Julia Peel, eldest daughter of Viscount Peel, who was for so many years Speaker of the House of Commons and a son of the great Sir Robert Peel. From that time forth Maguire became Cecil Rhodes' principal representative in London and even in the most troublous times manifested the same tact, coolness, and imperturbability which carried him through his mission to Lobengula. He visits South Africa periodically, and both he and his wife were with Cecil Rhodes throughout its siege in the Boer war.

Saving the Pennies. Greening—How is your daughter getting along at college? Browning—Fine. She saved 39 cents out of her last month's allowance.

Makes Child's Play of Wash Day

Read the Directions on the Wrapper

WITH COLD OR HOT WATER or any way you please you can use "SURPRISE" Soap, but there is an "easiest way."

A little hot water, a tea-kettle full is enough, then make a good lather and let "SURPRISE" do the work. It loosens the grip of the dirt that clings to the fibres of the cloth,—just a very slight rubbing will separate it. White or colored clothes are cleansed perfectly with "SURPRISE" Soap, and the finest fabrics are never hurt. Same price as common kinds.

DISTRICT

KENT BRIDGE.

James Hughes was a Blenheim visitor on Thursday.

Miss Mabel Allison is spending a few days in Dresden.

Mr. Geo. N. Shaw and family left for Moosejaw on Sunday.

Fred. Riseborough has resigned his position in Wallaceburg and is visiting at his home here.

Mr. Edward Worth, Past D. D. G. M., attended the Masonic Lodge of instruction in Chatham last week. The Ladies Aid of Knox church met at Mrs. Albert Langford's on Thursday and spent a very profitable time in quilting, etc. Arrangements were made for a valentine social in the Presbyterian Hall on the evening of Feb. 14.

The married peoples concert in the Methodist church Tuesday evening was a huge success. There were so

MIDDLE ROAD.

R. Pardo is drawing wood to Cedar Springs.

L. Goulet visited Mr. and Mrs. John Goulet over Sunday.

Mrs. C. Jenner spent Sunday with her brother, Alex. Pardo, 10th concession.

People of the Middle Road have repaired their wind mills for another wind storm.

Miss Nora Bennett returned home after spending a few days with Miss Beatrice Ilman.

A large number from here visited Mr. and Mrs. John Russell, Vinegar Hill, last Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bump, Sr., spent a few days with their daughter, Mrs. Gilbert Pardo, Pardoville.

This is the label that guarantees richest fabrics, finest tailoring, newest styles and unmatched values.

It is a good thing to look for—and a good thing to find.

It goes in all

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Suits and Overcoats

Is it in your clothes? It should be.

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CHATHAM

Talents never wear out.

Minard's Liniment Relieves Neuralgia.

He alone has energy who cannot be thus deprived of it.

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Neat, clean up-to-date skilled Workman—ship, Cozy Reading and Smoking Room provided in connection for the use of patrons

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