

WEDDINGS IN WALES.

WELLINGTON Lodge, No. 45, A. F. & A. M., G. R. C., meets on the first Monday of every month, in the Masonic Hall, Fifth St., at 7.30 p.m. Visiting brethren welcomed.

ALEX. GREGORY, Sec'y.
GEORGE MASSEY, W. M.

DENTAL.

R. LUDLOW'S DENTAL ROOMS are located at the head of the short stairway, second door west of Bank of Commerce, and opp. the Garner Hotel. All work neatly, cheaply and satisfactorily performed.

LEGAL.

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SMITH, HERBERT D.—County Crown Attorney, Barrister, Solicitor, etc. Harrison Hall, Chatham.

J. B. O'LENN—Barrister, Solicitor, etc. Conveyancer, Notary Public. Office, King Street, opposite Merchants' Bank, Chatham, Ont.

WALKER & REEVE—Barristers, Solicitors, etc., Chatham, Ont. Offices over Chatham Loan & Savings Co. Money to lend on mortgages. John A. Walker, K. C., John Reeve.

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WILSON, PIKE & GUNDY—Barristers, Solicitors, of the Supreme Court, Notaries Public, etc. Money to loan on mortgages, at lowest rates. Offices, Fifth Street. Matthew Wilson, K. C., W. E. Gundy, J. M. Pike.

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Some people are so easily persuaded to laugh at folly that the wish to make them do so loses its zest.

WEDDINGS IN WALES.

Quaint Customs That Still Exist Among the Peasantry.

Some quaint customs still survive among the peasantry of south Wales—at least in the remote villages. One of the oddest is the "bidding." When a young man and woman are engaged a circular is printed, known as a "bidding letter," and distributed at market and outside the chapels on Sunday so that all may know of the event. The form is always the same and runs as follows:

As we intend to enter the matrimonial state we are encouraged by our friends to make a bidding on the occasion at the young man's father's house (there follow the address and date of the entertainment), when and where the favor of your good and agreeable company is most humbly solicited, and whatever donation you may be pleased to bestow on us will be thankfully received, warmly acknowledged and cheerfully repaid whenever called for on a similar occasion by your obedient servants,

JOHN EVANS,
JANE DAVIS.

All being ready on the day, a party goes to fetch the bride to the bidding. She hides and has to be sought for in all directions, but being at last found is escorted in triumph. Her procession is met by that of the bridegroom, and they all repair to the church, where the wedding ceremony takes place, after which all return to the groom's house to make merry and to count the gifts. These are generally in money and vary from a shilling up to half a sovereign.

Each item is carefully entered in a book by the "bidding clerk," together with the donor's name, so that it may be repaid when he or she marries. As all the money will probably not be called in for many years—some at all, if the givers remain single—the young couple receive a tolerable start in life. Oddly enough, the bridegroom is expected to provide the kitchen clock and table, the glass cupboard and the kitchen dresser, also the bedstead. Each of the young people is supposed to bring half a dozen chairs, the bride's especial contribution being the bedding, the crockery ware, the parlor table and a chest of drawers. Things are done methodically in that part of the world.—London Tit-Bits.

THOUGHTLESS WIT.

Wit that stings is akin to crime. To hold up another to ridicule is not witty, but vulgar.

To laugh at another or to cause another to be laughed at is common. The merry laugh and the joke go round, but somewhere there is an ache.

There is no pest like him, this man whose thoughtless wit starts the laugh. The man that makes others laugh at some one else's expense is always causing suffering.

To start a laugh is the ambition of some men. The how or the where, the why or the effect is never considered. Wit is a joy forever so long as it does not base its success upon the misfortunes, the peculiarities, the weaknesses of men.

When a wit has to depend upon others' peculiarities for his subject matter it is time for him to close the "wit shop" and hang out the sign "To Let."

Defining His Position.

Years ago there was a member of an eastern legislature named Murphy, a good politician, but hardly a statesman. Indeed his notions of parliamentary order and debate were crude. He was so frequently out of order that the speaker got in the habit of crying as soon as Mr. Murphy rose, "The gentleman is out of order!"

Once, in the midst of an important and exciting debate, he leaped to his feet. The house murmured, and the speaker brushed him aside with the usual remark, "The gentleman is out of order!"

Murphy sat down, but presently he was on his feet again.

"Mr. President, I rise to a point of order. In justice I must explain that the thing I intended to say just now when you called me to order had nothing to do with what I did not say."

Birds' Nests.

In Scotland a naturalist has found a golden eagle's nest that contained a rubber ring, carried thither by the birds as an adornment. An observer in California has reported that a pair of golden eagles there decorated their nest with sacks. "When the kite builds look to lesser linen," says Shakespeare, alluding to the robberies committed by those birds from the hedges where linen was put to dry. The late Mr. Booth described a kind of bower made by some aesthetic eagles in Scotland.

His Planets.

A young gentleman was passing an examination in physics. He was asked "What planets were known to the ancients?"

"Well, sir," he responded, "there were Venus and Jupiter and"—after a pause—"I think the earth, but I am not quite certain."—London Tit-Bits.

A Skylock.

Little Elmer—Papa, what is a Skylock? Professor Broadhead—A Skylock, my son, is a man who is called so by the people to whom he lends money because he expects them to pay it back.

A Hard Bluff to Make.

The very best poker players look as if they were caught stealing sheep when they go to explain to their wives how sorry they are they've got to go away on business.

His Voice Changing.

Ethel—How funny your brother's voice sounds now! Edith—Yes, papa says he's outgrown all his clothes, and now he's outgrowing his voice, I guess.



Miss Whittaker, a prominent club woman of Savannah, Ga., tells how she was entirely cured of ovarian troubles by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I heartily recommend Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound as a Uterine Tonic and Regulator. I suffered for four years with irregularities and Uterine troubles. No one but those who have experienced this dreadful agony can form any idea of the physical and mental misery those endure who are thus afflicted. Your Vegetable Compound cured me within three months. I was fully restored to health and strength, and now my periods are regular and painless. What a blessing it is to be able to obtain such a remedy when so many doctors fail to help you. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is better than any doctor or medicine I ever had. Very truly yours, MISS EASY WHITTAKER, 604 39th St., W. Savannah, Ga. —\$5000 forfeit if original of above letter proving genuineness cannot be produced.

The testimonials which we are constantly publishing from grateful women prove beyond doubt the power of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to conquer female diseases.

Poaching Parsons.

Two clergymen, one belonging to Burnley, the other to a midland town, have had an amusing experience while holiday-making in Derbyshire.

They were walking by the side of a stream in the neighborhood of a famous mansion when they saw a big trout in the water. "I can tickle that fellow," exclaimed the midland clergyman, and this was no sooner said than he turned up his coat and shirt sleeves, stepped towards the stream, and after a while succeeded in seizing the fish and flinging it on the grass.

Scarcely had he killed his fish when a voice from behind called out sternly, "Gentlemen, I have caught you poaching; you will have to come with me." The speaker was a keeper, who insisted upon the two clergymen accompanying him to the police station.

After walking some distance the Burnley parson glanced at the keeper. Then, he says, "the thought struck me, inasmuch as he had got the fish, that if a little palm-oil, say, half a crown, were added to season it, he would be quite satisfied he had done his duty. However, that would have been tantamount to an acknowledgment of wrong-doing, and would have brought our office as clergymen into reproach. Had we been laymen I fear the half-crown would have gained the day."

One of the clergymen asked the keeper if he could not take them to the landowner, the Duke of —, instead of to the police station. He was told that His Grace was away. Then the steward was suggested. He, however, had an attack of gout, and was unable to see the poachers, so the Burnley clergyman sent in a note, and the two were allowed to go.

In answer to a letter he sent the next day to the steward, there came back a communication, in which the steward said it was evident the catcher of the trout was "no novice," and that, "as an experienced and ardent sportsman in all its branches, I recommend your clerical brother to look to the more apostolic branch of angling for the future."

HOW TO BE HAPPY THOUGH RICH

Use Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets—A Good Stomach is the Foundation of All Happiness.

Millionaires have been known to offer fortunes to any physician who would cure their Dyspepsia. With untold wealth and bad stomachs they could not compare in happiness with a six dollar a week man with a good stomach.

But because you have a balance with the bankers that is no reason you should have a bad stomach. Listen to the experience of others and use Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets. They cure rich and poor alike. Take the case of Mr. Joseph Leake, of 194 McCaul Street, Toronto. He says: "I was troubled for three years with Dyspepsia and Biliousness. I tried several medicines but none would cure me. I used one box of Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets and now I am cured. My daughter also who was troubled with Headaches and Dyspepsia, has been cured by using Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets."

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25 well ventilated rooms. Weekly or table borders. Special rates. \$1 per day

J. W. MILES, Proprietor.

When an Iceberg Turns Turtle.

Think of sections bigger than Rhode Island being torn from a glacier and swept off into the ocean, to be ferried 3,000 miles on the bosom of the Labrador current until the heated waters of the gulf stream cause them to vanish from human ken. Then can one form some idea of the immensity of the ice area discharged from the Greenland seas each year. Thousands of miles of valley are constantly emptying their contents into the bays and floods of the north waters, whence the tides hurry the detachments southward to cumbr the wide Atlantic.

The disposition of icebergs to turn turtle is one of their most dangerous propensities. It arises from several causes. When they start out from Greenland their bottoms are heavy with the detritus gathered in their glacial period, and this drops off at intervals as they move south, causing their center of gravity to change and the berg to assume new positions. The scientific theory of the formation of the vast submarine plateaus which extend from Labrador to Fundy, and are commonly known as the Grand banks of Newfoundland, is that they are the products of bergs during countless ages.

Cannibalistic Scorpions.

During many years of scorpion hunting I never remembered to have seen two individuals living together in amity, and even their more tender relations are tainted at times with the unamiable habit of cannibalism. The males are decidedly smaller than their mates, whom they approach accordingly with the utmost caution. If the fair innamorata doesn't like the looks of her advancing suitor she settles the question offhand by making a murderous spring at him, catching him in her claws, stinging him to death and making a hearty meal of him. This is scarcely lovable. On the other hand, if a dubious wife, the female scorpion is a devoted mother. She hatches her eggs in her own oviduct, brings forth her young alive—unlike her relations, the spiders—and carries them about on her back, to the number of fifty, during their innocent childhood, till they are of an age to shift for themselves in the struggle for existence.

First Person Cremated in America.

The first white person lawfully cremated within the present limits of the United States, according to wishes and desires expressed by himself, was Colonel Henry Laurens, one of the Revolutionary patriots. He was born in Charleston, S. C., in the year 1724, and died on his plantation near that place on Dec. 8, 1792. His will, which he had requested them to open and read the next day after his death, was supplemented with the following: "I solemnly enjoin it upon my son, as an indispensable duty, that, as soon as he conveniently can after my decease, he cause my body to be wrapped in twelve yards of towcloth and burned until it be entirely consumed." The request was carried out to the letter and was the beginning of cremation in America.

English Characteristics.

The Englishman is less social than men of any other nationality; I mean he is less conscious of the ties which bind humanity together, his moral formation owes little to his relations with other men, he scarcely troubles himself about what they think, and if he ever considers the matter at all it makes no difference in his sentiments and actions. In short, the Englishman is to a certain extent a recluse; he is more aloof from the world in which he lives and the neighbors whom he elbows than the men of any other nationality.—Boutmy's "The English People."

Spanish Etiquette.

There is a curious story of how the Duke d'Aosta, when king of Spain, told a muleteer to whom he was talking to cover himself, the sun being hot, forgetting that by so doing he made him a graudee. Marshal Prim, to prevent this catastrophe, knocked the man's hat out of his hand, and according to some the muleteer had something to do with the assassination that followed a few days afterward.

The Exception.

"I am getting up a subscription list for the relief of the poor. Can't you put your family down, sir?"

"Madam, since you ask a personal question, I don't mind telling you that I can put 'em all down, except my wife's mother."

Sensible.

Cholly—Charming widow, isn't she? They say she is to marry again. Algy—I wouldn't want to be a widow's second husband. Cholly—Well, I'd rather be a widow's second husband than her first, don't her know.

Expensive.

"They say her wedding beggared description."
"Oh, more than that!"
"Indeed?"
"Yes. It beggared her father."

To Be Ironed.

Mr. Troomer—Where on earth is my new silk hat? I've looked everywhere for it. His Bride (sweetly)—You said you wanted it ironed, dear, so I have sent it to the laundry.

Caught the Idea.

Bluster—Do you mean to say that I am a liar? Blister—I hope that I could not do so ungentlemanly a thing. But I see you catch my idea.

There would not be so many open mouths if there were not so many open ears.—Hall.

THE UNANIMOUS VERDICT

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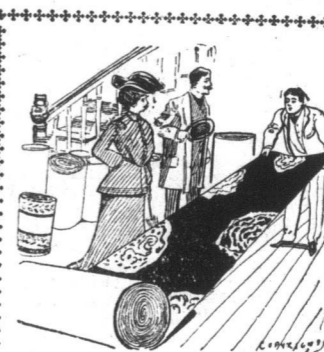
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Union Carpets, price per yd.	25, 35, 40 and 50c.
Wool	60, 70, 80, 90 and \$1.00.
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Sold by Druggists, or sent in plain wrapper, by express, prepaid, for \$1.00, or 3 bottles \$2.75. Circular sent on request.

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S. F. GARDINER, Manager.
Chatham, November 30, 1903.

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