

2 IN CHURCH OR AT HOME.

WHERE WILL YOU DECIDE TO BE MARRIED?

In Your Home or Before the Altar?—A Question of Some Importance to Brides of the Near Future—The Different Effect in Different Places—Small Weddings.

After a bride has settled the first and most important point concerning her wedding—after she has named the day—the next question for her to consider is: Where shall the ceremony take place? Shall she be married in church or at her own home? It might seem to one who has not carefully considered the subject, as if this question were primarily one of expense, and it would be so if all the church weddings were on the elaborate scale with which dwellers in large cities are now familiar.

But as it is entirely possible to be married in church in an extremely quiet and unostentatious way, in the presence of half a dozen witnesses only, and as home weddings are sometimes magnificent affairs, it is evident that expense is not the primary condition in this matter.

The question of where a wedding ceremony shall take place is largely a matter of individual feeling and sentiment.

Every one desires to defer to the wishes of the bride on the most important day of her life, and, as she will be the "white star" of the occasion, it is fitting that she should arrange all the details of the great event in accordance with her own tastes and feelings. As she is the person principally concerned in the drama which is to be enacted, no one will think her selfish if she does so.

It may be held that the bridegroom should take an equal interest in the ceremony, but he usually does not, and, as we all know, little attention is ordinarily paid to him. It would take too long to analyze the reasons of this different attitude of public sentiment toward the bride and the groom, which we must accept since it exists.

A bride who is wise and kind will not in this or in any similar matter, go counter to the wishes of her future husband where he has decided views and finds it hard to relinquish them.

According to the belief of some religious denominations a peculiar sacredness attaches to a church edifice. This Roman Catholics and Episcopalians hold that after a building has once been formally consecrated to the service of God—which cannot occur until it is free from debt—it is essentially holy, and different from all secular buildings.

A young girl who was about to be married, was urged by a ritualist friend to have her marriage solemnized in church. She was on the point of yielding to the representations of the latter, when a third young girl said, "You speak of sacred places. Is there any place more sacred to you than your home?" The bride was so much impressed with the remark that she decided to be married in her father's house.

When a young lady does not consider it as a religious duty to be married in one place rather than another, she will, if she be a person of sentiment, consider the influences, both solemn and joyful, to which she and her friends will be subject in church and at home.

The wedding ceremony is a peculiar one in that it involves such a variety of emotions in the hearts, not only of the bride and groom, but of the whole bridal party, and it is the beginning of a new life. But as it is, therefore, the ending of the old life and change from old to new conditions, it is an occasion from which sadness and solemnity are never absent.

A bride will wish to have her wedding a bright and happy affair, but she will wish it to be impressive also to others as well as to herself. Therefore, she will weigh the matter carefully in her mind before she decides between a church wedding and a ceremony performed within the walls of her own house. She will usually employ a great advantage. The grand tones of the organ bursting out in a wedding march, seems to give a special blessing to the occasion. To those who love music it is an indispensable adjunct of all high festivals. A quartette, or chorus of voices, is sometimes employed at a house wedding, and the effect of this arrangement is often very good.

The marriage service is addressed to the eye, however, quite as much as to the ear, and the bride will naturally desire that the scene shall present a beautiful and impressive picture to the eyes of her friends. It is very certain that a house wedding has an individuality and a charm about it which we seldom find inside of a church edifice. Church weddings are very much like one another, because churches are very much alike, and because their interiors cannot be as easily modified and changed as those of dwelling houses. Of course much depends upon the church and upon the house. Ascension church in New York, for instance, with its wonderfully beautiful painting rising to the ceiling behind the high altar, lends itself admirably to the decorative effects, especially where a wealth of tall palms soften the view and decorate the chancel steps. A wedding party standing against this background presents a beautiful picture.

A bride will naturally pay attention to questions of expediency and convenience. If she lives in an apartment or in a small house, and if she has a large number of friends whose presence at the wedding ceremony she desires, she will probably prefer to be married in church.

But—and here we return again to the question of individual feeling, which is deeply interwoven with our whole subject—some brides object so strongly to the publicity of a church wedding that they cannot consent to being made a target for the eyes of all men—strangers as well as acquaintances—even for the sake of gathering around them the full number of their friends and well-wishers.

In a city a bride is often stared at as she drives through the streets or alights at the church door, in a manner that is unpleasant to her feelings. She is sometimes jostled in the church porch, or commented upon by rude urchins or street ruffians in a way which jars upon her highly wrought nerves. A young woman who is a belle and a beauty, and about whom public interest is much aroused, often objects, therefore, to "making a spectacle of herself," as she calls it. Many modest and charming girls, however, are married in church, as if in need scarcely say.

Some persons consider that a home wedding is a more trying ordeal than one in church. They say that in a drawing room the bride stands so much nearer to the rest of the company that she is obliged to pass so close to them—as she stands at the altar, she feels much more embarrassment than she would in a church where the broad aisle separates her from her guests as she passes up it, and where none but the bridal party can be near her as she stands at the altar. Hardly we must remember that the separation which a church wedding effects between

WHAT COULD BE DONE

IF NOVA SCOTIANS WOULD WAKE UP AND INVEST MONEY.

The Young Men Would Stay at Home, and the Country Would be Prosperous—The Results of Inactivity and Drowsiness—Leaving for a Worse Country.

HALIFAX, May 27.—The papers the other day announced that a young business man, who had acquired a comparatively comfortable share of the world's goods, had sold his property and interests here and left for the western states to speculate in silver mines at Nevada. The announcement is silver mines at Nevada. The announcement is silver mines at Nevada. The announcement is silver mines at Nevada.



HALIFAX BIG CITY DEBT. Ald. Sweet—I must find room on the load for this little loan for water supplies. Halifax—How much more do they think I can bear? My back is almost broken now.

bride and her friends, has its disadvantages as well as its advantages.

The solemnity of feeling which almost every one feels in a church, erects a barrier between the bride and her friends, and although this may save her from some embarrassment, it also deprives her of the privilege of receiving the expression of the sympathy of her friends when her emotion and theirs is at its height.

Why should we not give way to simple, natural feeling? Why should we not rejoice in sharing it with our friends instead of keeping them at arms length? The English custom of repairing to the vestry-room, and there having the registry signed by the bride and groom, is a method which usually prevails in this country.

It must be said that church weddings are now very much in fashion, largely, I think, because they give an opportunity for display. If a bride wishes to have a bridal procession with a number of bridesmaids, if the wedding is to be a showy and expensive affair, a church will probably be selected as the scene of the ceremony, because there is more room for display and a larger audience can be accommodated.

Where an intended bride deserts her own church because it is "stuffy" or "unfashionable," and selects instead some more fashionable place of worship, does she not show herself wanting in true feeling on the day when a display of worldliness seems most incongruous and unfitting?

One advantage of a large wedding over a small one, and therefore, in most cases, of a church wedding, is that the bride is likely to receive a greater number of presents. While it is not necessary for all who are invited to a church wedding to send wedding gifts, many prefer to do so, and the invitation serves as a reminder to their friends who else would forget to bring their friendly offerings.

A marriage, however, which is to be a true marriage—one of mutual affection and respect, should not be arranged with a view to fashion nor yet to worldly gain, in the matter of presents or in any other matter. Let every intending bride take her own heart as her guide, and arrange this beautiful festival of her life in a way that will give to herself and others, the greatest peace and happiness, not only at the moment, but as a bright and cheering memory throughout life.—Florence Howe Hall.

A Change for the Better.

Mr. John C. Miles now has his studio in the telephone building on Prince William street, and the change has been for the better. The new rooms are larger, better lighted, and in every way more suited for good work. The summer term has just commenced, and a very large number of pupils are in attendance daily, receiving instruction in drawing and painting, and many of them are making remarkable progress. Miss Annie Hart, one of the pupils, is at work on a large painting of the Madonna for the church at St. Stephen, and Miss McCarty of Portland is painting a life size portrait of Hon. John Costigan, both of which give promise of being valuable pictures when finished. Messrs. John C. Miles and Fred H. C. Miles instruct their pupils personally, and have succeeded in awakening a remarkable interest in art in this city.

The Sailor at the Ball.

They gave a ball up town last night; I had a girl in And she was rigged right up in style, I'll have you all to know; She had a bran new suit of silks, from scupper up to truck, And held her eye right in the wind, as dainty as a duck. Her dress was bent on to her arms with bands in some queer way, And then 'twas cut down fore and aft, which means decency. They must have got the thing too long—you never saw such gear— It had a dozen reefs in front, and yet it wasn't clear; She held it guyed up in the ways—it hung off in her wake, And rose and fell just like a swell, without a sign of break. 'Twas made of figured satin and in all respects was chaste; But when I swung the girl around, the gear, as I could see, Was not cleared up altho' she, as such stuff like that should be, And if I'd been less careful with that silk and satin dress, Her halliards might have parted and there'd been a pretty mess.—Tom Masson in Cloak Reeler.

For use of K. D. C. is convincing proof that this the sample package send three cent stamp to

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