

LOVE AND MARRIAGE

A song called "The Sprig of Shillelagh," which has been very popular with the Irish peasantry since it was written, close on a century ago, says: "Love is the root of a man's misery, and it is the root of a woman's woe. He loves all that's lovely and loves all to be done."

And yet, though there seems to exist widespread impression that strong passion, masterful love is a characteristic of the Irish temperament, love making in Ireland is really a very calm and placid business, and the old song I have quoted notwithstanding, the average Irish peasant takes to himself a mate with as calm a head as a place, and with as steady a nerve as if he were buying a cow at Ballinacree Fair, says a writer in Macmillan's Magazine.

Love by no means decides all the marriages that are made in Ireland. The match is often arranged in a judiciously cool, businesslike and mercenary fashion between the parents of the "boy" and the "girl," the young people themselves not being allowed, and indeed, not expecting any voice in the matter. But if there is little room in the origin of most of the matrimonial contracts made in rural Ireland, they are, as a rule, entirely successful. The marriages thus prospectively arranged are as happy as any can be. Pat and Mary fall fondly in love with each other; they are made husband and wife; children quickly spring up around their hearts, and the older they grow the more passionately do they cling to each other. Their domestic felicity is rarely, if ever, disturbed by jealousy, for Pat makes the fairest use of his general serenity of the domestic life, and the fond attachment between husband and wife, I knew at least of one Irishman in Limerick who, returning home from market in the truck of the summer evenings, the wives driving, and the husbands, with "drop taken," perhaps, quietly in the straw behind.

There is a story told of a young lady from Cork, who was presented at the Viceregal Court, in London, on her marriage. The Viceroys has the pleasant duty of kissing the cheek of the ladies presented at a drawing room; but when his Excellency was about to give this young lady the traditional salute she cried, "Oh, no, the privilege is exclusively reserved for Mr. O'Connell."

Of course there are exceptions to the general serenity of the domestic life, and the fond attachment between husband and wife, I knew at least of one Irishman in Limerick who, returning home from market in the truck of the summer evenings, the wives driving, and the husbands, with "drop taken," perhaps, quietly in the straw behind. There is a story told of a young lady from Cork, who was presented at the Viceregal Court, in London, on her marriage. The Viceroys has the pleasant duty of kissing the cheek of the ladies presented at a drawing room; but when his Excellency was about to give this young lady the traditional salute she cried, "Oh, no, the privilege is exclusively reserved for Mr. O'Connell."

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About the House.

SEE CAN'T COOK. My wife is a cook, though she studies a book. Of recipes day after day. But when I care? She is charming and fair. And as sweet as the blossoms of May. She tries all her might, but her bread isn't light. For she never can get it to rise; But then you should see, as she breaks down, how she tries to make it shine. The light that illumines her eyes! No skill can she boast in preparing a roast. And in pies her successes are few. And all she fares when soup she prepares. For she is sure to get a stew. But no fault do find, for she's loving and kind. And when bachelorish I foregoek 'Twas to wed a sweet wife, a companion for life. It wasn't to marry a cook.

FLORAL DECORATIONS. There is no more artistic decoration than flowers; they give the note of refinement even to a room that seems otherwise impossible, and they cheer and brighten as no other dumb things can. Somebody has called them "heaven's messengers." And yet there is one melancholy thing about them says an exchange paper translated by the "Lancet." They have a way of noticing it and pointing a moral, and the average woman sighs because of their staying charms make flowers an expensive luxury.

Flowers treated properly can last and look well even after six weeks, thus taking from them their only reproach, and rendering them possible pleasure for the poorest. Every night take them out of the vases and thoroughly rinse the stalks under the tap, removing with the fingers any decomposed matter. Then place them to bed for the night in a basin of strong salt water.

Beef Loaf for Slicing Cold.—Chop three pounds of raw beef, half pound of suet, half pound of bread crumbs, and two eggs, add salt, pepper, onion, one teaspoon of butter, two teaspoons of summer savory, one teaspoon of salt, half teaspoon of pepper. Mix and work into loaf, and bake in a pan for two hours, basting frequently with melted butter. Slice and garnish with parsley and slices of lemon. Serve with hot water.

Beef and Mutton.—Cut the meat into small pieces, simmer two or three hours until quite tender, using enough water to cover the meat. Add potatoes, and if desired, onions, carrots, and other vegetables. Season with salt and pepper about ten minutes before serving. The liquor is thickened for gravy or soup.

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WIDOWS AND BACHELORS. Men and women have such different views on some subjects. Take matrimony, for instance. When a widow chooses a second husband, she looks about him for a splinter, but a bachelor doesn't care two straws for a splinter. She prefers a widower with a fund of domestic experience to draw on. These are facts. Statistics prove them. As a general thing the man who spends one-half of his time in memorizing statistics and the other half firing them at his friends—rather than his enemies, he has no friends—his unimagined nuisance, but he is, without a useful and even necessary, and we tolerate him with resignation. He is a man who is "deserted" of his friends. Once in a while when floundering in the depths of his marital information he tells us something we would never have known, or perhaps would not have thought of. He is a man who is "deserted" of his friends.

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Helpful Hints. We have discovered a rather odd addition to breakfast dishes, that may be liked by others who have corn in plenty, but live where "breakfast foods" are expensive, says a writer. It is the old-fashioned cornmeal, which is used as a granular food to make for me when I was a little girl and had a bad cold. It is a very accommodating dish as it may be made to suit the taste, and we like it best to take about the size of a small spoonful, slowly into it, stirring steadily, a pint of meal; when it has boiled a few minutes add a pint of milk, more or less, as you get the rest of your breakfast. Salt to taste, and if you like thicker, use more milk or less water. Sometimes we have it thin enough to drink from cups and sometimes thick enough to eat with cream and sugar.

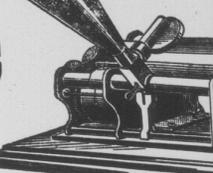
Could Russia Take India? The Problem Analyzed.—It would be a great deal of trouble for Russia to take India, says a writer. Russia has a large army, but it is not as well equipped as the British. The British have a large fleet, and they have a large number of ships. Russia has a large number of soldiers, but they are not as well trained as the British. The British have a large number of ships, and they have a large number of soldiers. Russia has a large number of soldiers, but they are not as well trained as the British.

Domestic Use of Beef. The retail butcher in cutting up meat as ordered generally weighs it before trimming, making the customer pay full price for portions which go into the scrap and are sold at a small price for soup-making. The market man thus gets paid for this not inconsiderable part of his wares twice over, the first time usually getting a high valuation therefor. The economical housewife will insist upon getting all that she pays for, and makes the trimmings valuable for soup stock.

Meat when delivered by the butcher should be at once removed from the paper and put in a cool place until needed. Care should be taken that it does not come into direct contact with the ice. If the refrigerator is large enough, it is better to have the meat in a separate compartment. If the refrigerator is small, the meat should be wrapped in paper and put in a cool place until needed.

Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding.—Put the meat upon a rack (or trivet) and roast as before directed. Make a batter of one pint milk, 12 pint stiff flour, four eggs well beaten and one-half teaspoonful of salt. Mix thorough-

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MOVING STAIRCASES ARE COMING.

Every visitor to the Grand Magasin de Louvre at Paris has been up the wonderful moving staircase, says London Sketch. You put your hand on a rail, you stand still, and you find, by a delightful movement, which is both exhilarating and fascinating that you are carried from floor to floor without the least effort, and without any of those unpleasant thrills which lift you up as our American cousins call them "elevators"—always succeed in giving to nervous persons, it is worth while shopping at the Magasin de Louvre for the sake of going up that moving staircase, and now—a long way behind our French friends—we have got one in London. The enterprising firm that has started a moving staircase on this side of the water is Harrold's Store in the Brompton Road, and I think they will find it so popular that there will be a store of great trading business in London that will not be glad to institute the same invention. Its carrying capacity is upward of 3,000 persons.

A Happy New Year. Incessant to those that believed there was no cure for catarrh and to whom the constant use of ointments, snuffs and washes were a wearing nuisance, a delightful and sure cure has been found. No need for food and broken voice. Send for a free sample outfit, and be convinced. The name of this sure cure is Catarrhine. Catarrhine penetrates to the diseased parts in the form of a pine-scented gas. Write at once to—

N. C. POLSON & Co., Kingston, Ont.

A CEREBRAL ERROR. That was a good sermon that Dr. Binks preached this morning. Excellent. It would have been almost perfect if the doctor had interpolated a few sentences of his own.

CHANGE OF BASE. Nurse Girl—Why don't ye put that hair to sleep, or have a good time while yer in 'th'