

told His disciples when they entered into a house to salute it, and we know moreover, that the apostles greeted one another according to the fashion of the times, and that they requested their fellow believers to observe the ordinary form of salutation when they were assembling together.

In the early Christian Church the members kissed one another when they assembled. Though rules were made governing the practice, yet the custom involved some inconveniences, and in the course of time degenerated. Tertulian spoke of the annoyance it must be to a heathen husband to see his wife exchange the kiss of peace with her religious brethren. Clement, of Alexandria; had to warn the Christians of his day against those shameless kisses which made the church resound, and caused foul suspicion. In the course of time the church councils had to deal with the practice, and it was finally decided that when the deacon said, "Salute one another with a holy kiss," the clergy should kiss the bishop, the men the men, and the women the women. This custom, though it still prevails in substantially the same form in the Eastern Church, was abolished in the Western about the thirteenth century.

A distinguished divine once remarked that he was glad that the custom had passed away, because there might be some whom we would not care to kiss, and others who might not care to kiss us; besides, good-looking persons would find the supply greater than the demand.

When Mohammedans meet they use the term "Salam." Practically the expression means, "Peace be with you." But it is extended only to those whom they regard as brethren, or members of the same religious community. The women make use of the same term, and when they meet an intimate male relative,

they also kiss his long, flowing beard. A bow, more or less pronounced, is made by men of almost all nations, and when it is properly made, it is both graceful and dignified. By some, however, it is carried to extremes. In Denmark the gentlemen bow to each other very often. One writer has said, "So frequently do the gentlemen bow to each other in the street that their hats seem to be more in their hands than on their heads. It is considered the greatest breach of decorum to enter even the smallest shop without removing the hat. In this respect they follow the custom of the Parisians and Viennese. Even porters and hucksters salute one another with profound gravity."

The Japanese are the very soul of politeness, but they bow so repeatedly and so low, even "dusting the mat with the forelock," that their actions border on the grotesque.

Although osculation is not now regarded as a proper form of salutation in the church, it is still in favor among some of the men of Northern Europe, as well as among the gentler sex of our own and other countries. Mr. Frank Vincent Jr., in describing the manners and customs of Denmark, says, "The men there actually usurp the time hallowed privileges of the women in matters of osculation; for they hug and kiss each other on parting for a long distance, or upon meeting afterwards, while the women, poor things, can only look sadly on at such times, taking no part in the conventional ceremonies through which Danish friendship and affection express themselves." In this respect the Danish women are in as neglected a condition as the women of Japan. In speaking of the latter Miss Duncan, in "A Social Departure," says, "No lover or husband has ever kissed them. This fashion of ours has probably