TIE HYMEN'S KNOT ODDLY.

Nations of Earth Have Differen Customs of Wedlock.

MARRIAGES IN MANY COUNTRIES.

Marriages may be made in heaven, as the old optimistic proverb is fond of asserting, but man, at least, has his say in the disposition of the ceremonies which mark the cementing of the bonds of holy wedlock.

Wedding ceremonies have a special significance of their own in every country of the globe. The advent of Hymen is celebrated in a manner peculiar to the offices which the god performs. Each nation honors him in its own peculiar way and in each the nuptial happiness of the bride is made the occasion of the performance of a series of queer and interesting ceremonials.

Marriages in India take place only in March, April, May or June. If the bridegroom has been married before, however, and desires to join the ranks of the benedicts a second time he may wed his second wife in November or February. In India, too, the poor little bride is bought by her husband as well as married. He must arrange to pay her father a certain sum of money, and if the amount is not forthcoming immediately after the ceremony the groom is sued by his new masculine relative and his wife is returned to her father and kept in pawn until the stipulated sum has been paid.

The various ceremonies which attend the celebration of a Brahmin wedding are very elaborate and continue for a period of five days. First the married couple sit under an alcove or canopy supported by twelve pillars. Then the married women among the invited guests go through a form of exorcism in which lighted camphor is supposed to put to flight the sorceries of the "evil eye." Then the bridegroom indulges in a bit of coy acting, costuming himself for a pilgrimage to Benares and actually departs from the village which contains his wife. He is met on the confines, however, by his father-in-law, who readily persuades him to return to his home. The thread which is fastened to the wrists of the couple typifies their united condition of wedlock. Fire, stones and water have their share in the curious marriage customs of India and the whole concludes with a royal procession in which the bride is covered with jewels and precious stones. At its conclusion the young wife returns to her father's house to stay there until she has grown up sufficiently to look after the home of her husband.

China Ceremony is Complex.

The nuptial ceremonies of China are very complex and elaborate. Many observances attend the preliminary engagement or notification of marriage, and at the actual marriage performance there are a number of other curious customs to be observed. The night before the wedding is spent by the future bride in a state of bewailing and lamentation, in which she is ably assisted by her friends. She must protest that she does not want to leave the home of her maidenhood all through the night, but on the morrow she forgets her grief of the preceding evening and enters the sedan chair which the bridegroom has sent to convey his wife to him.

The future husband, instead of his bride, provides the wedding feast in China. Her parents await her arrival in the entrance hall of their home, where their daughter kneels before them. Then she enters the presence of the groom, veiled in scarlet, which is removed by the husband, but not before his wife has been lifted over a slow fire of charcoal. When the veil is at last withdrawn the couple enter the ancestral hall and prostrate themselves in subjection before the altar. Then they enter the banqueting hall and the bride finishes the subjection of her condition by waiting upon her new parents as a servant.

Japan Weddings are Gay.

The weddings of Japan are far gayer than the marriages in China. The young bride has a decidedly better time of it.

She is brought into the apartment which contains the bridegroom by two young girl friends. The groom is modest and keeps his eyes fastened upon the floor. The wife follows his example and seats herself opposite him, while boht are waited upon by the two girl attendants and presented with symbolical fruits and cups containing saki, which they are expected to drain until they reach the good luck placed at the bottom.

The bride and groom then retire for a time, only to return, again, however, in more brilliant apparel, the bride still wearing her veil of white silk, which is one day to be her shroud. The two damsels in waiting again go through a form of service, offering more food and saki to the wedded pair and the parents-in-law. The ceremonies conclude with the final drinking of the man and wife from a double-spouted kettle, each one drinking alternately until the contents are drained. This is symbolical of the mutual tasting of the joys and sorrows of life.

Greeks Bar the May Month.

Greek men and women may be married at any period of the year except during the month of May. The preliminary ceremonies usually last a week. On Sunday a copy of the marriage contract is sent to the groom, who returns the compliment by presenting the bride-to-be and her parents with a number of simple gifts. The next four days are devoted to the preparation of the wedding cake. The grain is sifted, the friends of the couple come and knead it into dough. Then pieces of the dough are distributed among the company and parts of it thrown over the heads of the future husband and wife. Friday witnesses a procession of the presents through the streets. Saturday is reserved for the preparation of the bride, which is done by her girl friends, who sing to her while attending to her toilet. Sunday is the actual marriage day, and the ceremonies of the wedding are very intricate and curious. Water is used freely to deluge the heads of both husband and wife. Her shoes are presented by her husband and put on by the best man. They are married by both rings and crowns. When they return to their home the mother of the bride places a loaf of bread upon her head, and when she leaves on a wedding tour the bride returns half of it to her parent.

Russians Go to Church.

Russia has scant respect for the dignity of women, but her weddings are attended with elaborate ceremonials. They are mostly church performances, in which the ritual is most impressive. After a number of prayers and chants, sung by the minister, rings are exchanged, and a carpet or rug is thrown upon the ground, upon which the couple are requested to step. This is a moment of great moment, for the one who first puts foot upon the rug is supposed to exercise the mastery over the couple. Crowns are then placed upon the heads and a cup given to each whose contents have been tasted previously by the minister. The couples at church are supplemented by three days' observance, consisting principally of feasting and festivity.

Germany is a land of weddings, as it is given over to family and home celebration. In some province has its own observances to add to the general regulation feasting and gayety common to each section of the united fatherland. The observances last a week or more, and when the bride and groom are finally married and allowed to go importunate friends to see the conclusion of a wedding journey. They make a very exhausted couple, so was a happy and loving one.

Money and rank go for much in the provinces of Germany, and money has its share in the observances of the ceremonies of a wedding. In Thuringia the bridegroom is betrothed a prayer book, and in Hanover and other sections the village children pelt the bride's door with pieces of broken crockery, and then the debris the greater the happiness store for the recipient of the honor. The bride of the upper classes elaborate guards against poverty by putting her pocket with salt and bread, observance rather trying to American maiden, for she never owns a pocket. At the same time the husband to be insures the possession of a full harvest by filling the pocket of his coat with species of grain. The games symbolic theatrical performances constitute a feature of the nuptial celebration, and dancing is invariably part of the ceremonies of the wedding feast.—Chicago Chronicle.

NIGHT UNDER CANVAS.

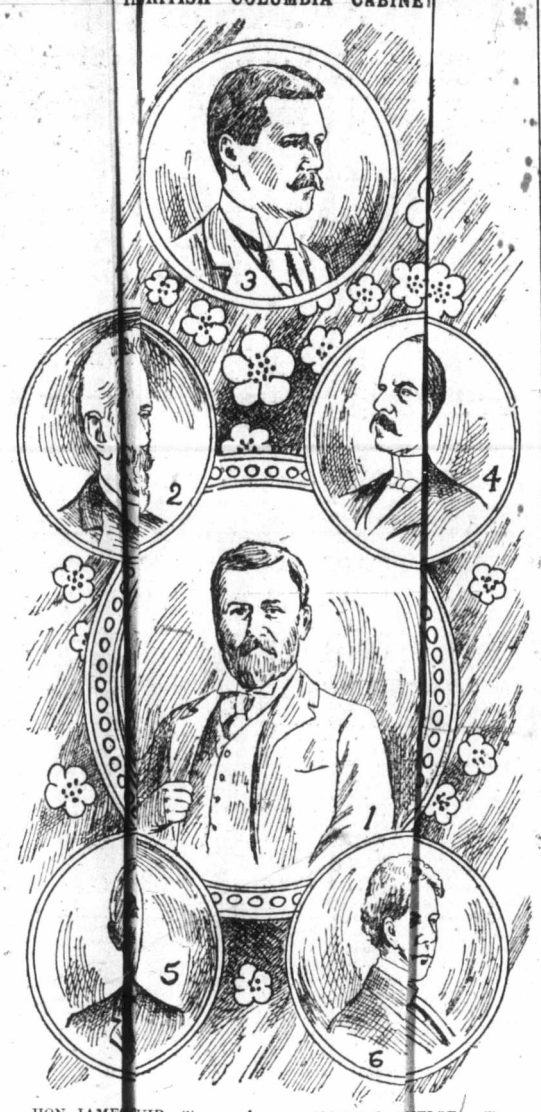
Putting the Wea Animals in a Menagerie Sleep.

MANY OF THEM NERVOUS.

"An audacious, colossal, stupendous and soul-stirring dramatic divertisement," to the programme, had just ended. The circus was over. The band played a loud quickstep to make the departing audience sprightly. The four-horse chariot teams disappeared into the bowels of the big shedding. The day in the arena was done.

The night, unquiet and full of weird animal calls, groanings and breathings, was about to begin in the region below street, Madison Square Garden. Between rows of animal cages, the circus bound to get its money's worth hurrying slowly on its way to the and into the streets. The lions and tigers paced up and down their cages, with hungry eyes that gleamed in green and gold. The big lions peered through the bars, but they paid no heed of the pygmy humans who stared back. There was in those shining eyes something that told their thoughts far from the circus. It was probably the latent instinct of the hunt in the jungle or on veldt.

A tired animal-keeper stood before them and talked to them soothingly. "A day like this," he said, "makes them excited. All those people



THE BRITISH COLUMBIA CABINET

HON. JAMES DUNSMUIR. (1) Premier and President of the Council.
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stand and stare at them and poke them and say 'Go!' It's no wonder they're live when their day ends. And, besides the night is their wakeful time, anyw. They never seem to get over the up-all-night instinct."

The animal-keepers in a circus call all the lions and tigers and pumas "cats," just as they call the elephants "bulls" and the ring horses "rosin backs." The reason the horses are called "rosin backs" is because rosin is rubbed on them to keep the bareback riders from slipping off while performing their evolutions. The old-fashioned "pad horse," on whose back a platform was held by surcingles, has gone out of fashion in the circus business and all riders now perform the feats on the rosined, broad bare backs of the ambling white horses.

Kept Under Close Watch.

The fag end of the belated and slow-moving audience in the menagerie was hardly out of the doors when the lights were turned out, all save a few that enabled the watchmen and keepers to keep close surveillance on all the beasts. There is nothing quite so uncertain as a congregation of 100 unreasoning brutes of savage and treacherous instincts.

When the doors are locked for the night the circus sleeps, or is supposed to sleep. The performers have long since gone to their hotels or boarding-houses. All the paraphernalia and the glitter of the show has been stowed away. As the horses come from the ring the hostlers have rubbed them down and laid their beds of clean straw. They stand in their narrow stalls motionless fat and broad and sleek. Here and there one lies on its side. They eat their hay, chewing in a slow and meditative way, and are like well-contented persons with a life job and little to do. They are as well groomed as a woman of fashion, and their quarters are as clean as a newly-minted dollar. In the bales of hay in their quarters their keepers and hostlers sleep all night with one eye on the stalls.

The man who has charge of the hippopotamus drains the big tank in his cage, in which he has been sloshing and wallowing all day and, in circus parlance, "puts him to bed dry." Just before the show is out the "hip" has been fed 100 pounds of hay and a bucketful of bran, which he grinds in the very back of his enormous mouth, to the wonderment of the crowd.

It does not take the "hip" long to dispose of his upper, and then he reclines on his side, closes his little, ugly brown eyes and goes to sleep.

Seals Enjoy Themselves.

There are happy animals in the menagerie that live quite such a good time as the seals. They gambol in their tanks, scambling over the partition and poing their snaky heads at persons who stop to look at them in a most comically inquisitive manner. They "hick" and bark and tumble about like a lot of schoolboys at recess time. Their intelligence and the acquaintance and affection they display for their trainer are astonishing. One dive to the bottom of the tank and comes up with a tomato in his mouth. He swims to the edge of the tank and presents the tomato to the trainer, much as an intelligent dog would retrieve a stick. When the trainer good-naturedly takes the tomato from the seal's mouth and pats its head approvingly the weird shining beast "honks" its thanks and plunges to the bottom of the tank with a playful splash of its tail. The keeper distributes a lot of chopped raw fish among the seals for supper, at about the time people uptown are eating their broiled lobsters and Welsh rarebits.

Meantime preparations are being made to put them to bed. Close to the tanks in which they disport is their wagon cage. In this is a salt water tank also. A platform is laid from the tanks to the wagon. The keeper snaps his fingers and calls: "Tumble out now! Time for bed! Step lively! Good night, boys!" And the seals climb out of the tanks, waddle along the platform and climb into the wagon, barking like a lot of pups let loose. The doors close on them and the keeper goes to sleep on a pile of hay under the wagon. But the naughty seals do not go to sleep at once. For an hour or more their bark—which sounds a good deal like a laugh at a seal joke—is heard in the menagerie.

Big Beasts are Restless.

In the elephant quarters there is "something doing" all night long. The elephants, despite their size and apparent stolidity, are extremely nervous and apprehensive animals. An elephant is either an arrant coward or a treacherous and murderous brute who has begun to realize his physical power. The elephants are more closely watched at night than any of the animals in the menagerie. Two or three men keep their eyes on them all night. William Henry Badger, a negro, is their keeper and he has been with the show a great many years.

As soon as the show is over the elephants are given a supper of hay. They stand chained in their places in a row, swaying from side to side in a monotonous, yet discontented way, throwing their hay about and playing with it more than they eat it. After their supper they lie down on their sides and look like great, gray, shapeless sacks. In a few moments they lumber to their feet again, snorting and throwing their hay around all the while swaying back and forth.

An elephant is easily frightened at night. If a strange dog or cat runs through the alley in which they are chained they are all on their feet in a moment, and then there is pandemonium. Their terror is contagious. One will trumpet the alarm, another takes it up, and soon they are all tugging at their chains and uttering cries of fright. The din arouses the other animals, and soon the "cats" are roaring, the sacred bulls are bellowing, the seals are barking and the menagerie is in an uproar.

Their Characteristics Differ.

The ostriches are an uneasy lot. About midnight they squat down in their bedding of straw, but they do not go to sleep. Their long, snakelike necks wave back and forth, and they peck here and there at nothing. If the ostriches do not lie down when the show closes the keeper, anxious to get them quiet and go to sleep himself, pushes them into a squatting position with his hands on their backs.

"Lay down, you rubber neck!" he yells. Soon he has them all sitting in the straw, but this does not close their eyes, and they "rubber" for an hour or two before they go to sleep. The keeper rolls himself up in his blanket and dozes with an eye on his charges.

The camels are not early birds either. They stand and chew their hay, and their alert and comical faces express the liveliest satisfaction in all that is going on. If an elephant trumpets in the aisle around the corner the camels all turn their heads in that direction and simultaneously stop chewing. If the elephant stops his noise the jaws of the camels start again.

The bears are "early to bed," but not "early to rise," and they are the most humorous of all the sleeping animals in the menagerie. They scrawl on their backs, with their legs against the wall of the cage, exactly like a small boy who has kicked the covers off and has assumed such a sleeping pose as only a small boy and a bear can.

Over among the yaks and the sacred cows several small negro boys have made their beds in the hay, and lie there talking and laughing in a suppressed way. The sacred cow chews her midnight cud, and pays no attention to them.

Know a Thing or Two.

Menagerie animals know a day or two in advance the approach of a storm. Being in captivity, and helpless because of it, they instinctively dread a heavy wind. Just before a storm all the animals grow restless, and the menagerie is a noisy place. Then the keepers are extra vigilant, and at night put the cage fronts in and surround the wagons with covers of canvas to exclude sound and light.

The night is well past before the menagerie is really settled down. The men have been dozing fitfully since midnight; up now and again to quiet some restless animal, but in the main putting in a good night's sleep. The watchmen constantly patrol between the rows of wagons. The elephant-keeper lies on his back on two bales of hay, gazing at the ceiling and occasionally calling sharply to a noisy elephant. There are weird sounds of animals talking in their sleep and deep breathing of many slumbering brutes.

It is scarce daylight when the menagerie awakes again. Horses scramble to their feet and begin on their hay left over from the supper of the night before; the yaks and the sacred cows and camels begin again on their cuds. The elephants lumber to their feet. Circus roustabouts crawl yawning from their beds in the hay and pull on their boots, which operation begins and finishes their morning toilet. The circus awakes, all except the lions and the tigers, who have been up all night, and the bears, who are sleepy heads, and like to lie abed of a morning.—Chicago Chronicle.

The Mother Girl.

We are taught from early childhood
that the angels in the skies
Are as chaste as are the teardrops
in a new-born infant's eyes—
Are as pure as breath of springtime,
and as lovely as the flowers
That are blooming in their beauty
in the bright celestial bowers.
We are told that nothing mortal,
nothing earthly, can compare
With those sweet ethereal creatures,
"angels ever bright and fair,"
But we have an earthly angel who
is not so far behind
Those immaculate creations of the
upper angel kind.

She's the home girl, don't you know,
Often dressed in calico,
But her beauty plainest garb can
never smother;
She's that sweet domestic pearl,
That plain, modest, peerless girl
Who tries to lift the burden from her
mother.

Sshe is not a bud of fashion, nor a
butterfly of style,
And there are no bogus trimmings in
the make-up of her smile;
Needs no artificial thing to enhance
her girlish charms,
And a god would go in raptures o'er
the plumpness of her arms
As she washes up the dishes, and the
minutes speed along,
Dancing gayly as they pass her to
the music of her song,
In her eyes a soft expression of a pure
maternal love
That must surely be the envy of
those angels up above.

She's the joy of every home
Underneath yon arching dome
Till she gives her heart's affections
to another—
Lucky he who wins the true
Loving loyal maiden who
Tries to lift the daily burden from
her mother.

When the weekly toil is over and
she dons her Sunday gown
There is not a pampered darling on
the earth can turn her down
In the winning game of beauty;
not a fashionable pearl,
Though ablaze with costly jewels,
can outshine the mother girl.
Sweet simplicity is noted in her un-
assuming grace,
And she needs no color touching to
put bloom into her face,
For the blood of health is coursing
through her veins, her rosy
blush
Isn't made for the occasion by the
Decorative brush.

She's the very fairest gem
In our beauty diadem,
Search creation and you cannot find
another
On the face of all the earth
That possesses half the worth
Of the girl who lifts the burden from
her mother.

—Denver Evening Post.

The Modes at a Glance.

Not the least part of the utility of a ball gown, or rather the skirt of it, lies in its adaptability to other uses when it is dismissed from its place as a ball gown. The skirt has the trimming ripped off, the hem is examined and any frayed portions are cut away, also any part that seems soiled. The skirt is then washed with soap and water, and if the shape is redundant it can be remodelled. It is now ready for use as a silk slip, over which a lace or lawn or dimity frock can be made up. If the hem looks too plain you can add a flounce or a simple ruffle of silk or lace.

With this slip worn beneath, the frock will last much longer than if it has only a stretched skirt beneath. The silk slip can be worn all summer without being washed, a great saving in laundry bills if one spends the summer at hotels away from home.

It is out of the question to wear bedraggled or unstiffened finery, yet starching by unskilled hands ruins a street garment, which is often returned with lace dragged and torn from the ruffles, and the whole robe looking as if it had been dragged and pulled. Try a silk slip worn beneath.

With the death of Mrs. T. M. Keyworth, at Lincoln, England, at the age of 99 years, the line of John Bunyan's descendants becomes extinct. The last male descendant died many years ago and now rests under an imposing monument erected to his memory at Lincoln.

A QUEEN'S NEEDLEWORK.

An Apron Embroidered by Mary, Queen of Scots.

Interesting is the story told in the Ladies' Home Journal of the bringing to light of an apron embroidered by Mary Queen of Scots while in jail awaiting execution. Mr. Meyers, an American collector who was in London on business, had an opportunity to buy a beautiful ancient embroidered garments. Among those which he purchased was one known to have belonged to Mary, Queen of Scots. In ripping out the gold and silver thread which it was wrought, an article was discovered sewed between the lining, where it had been carefully hidden by the unfortunate Queen herself. Subsequent research has since fully established the fact that the apron is the work of the ill-fated Queen.

It has been said by experts in England, France, the United States, and all agree in declaring the stitch used is the one called the 'Lost Stitch.' Much has been searched for by collaborators unavailingly for the two hundred years. Under the microscope the work seems to be in a series of French knots with infinitesimal disks of silk lie side by side and overlapping together. There are hundreds of them to the square inch, all of gold, with the colors exquisite.

"Around the edge each petal, forming a line. Every part of the design, is a fillery of white, either a stitch of ingenuity or a microscopic ingenuity couched on. The blossoms are marigolds, jessamines, roses, morning-glories. They are arranged their leaves to form a running design—flowing yet disconnected.

Never Have Engagement Rings.

The maidens never experience the joy of receiving a diamond engagement ring. They are presented with a gold band, which is worn on the third finger of the left hand. The wedding day the bride changes the ring to the third finger, which is the ring finger in that country.

13 Running Sores.

Mr. Stephen Wescott, Freeport, N.S., gives the following experience with Burdock Blood Bitters.

"I was very much run down in health and employed our local physician who attended me three months; finally my leg broke out in running sores with fearful burning. I had thirteen running sores at one time from my knee to the top of my foot. All the medicine I took did me no good, so I threw it aside and tried B.B.B. When one-half the bottle was gone I noticed a change for the better and by the time I had finished two bottles my leg was perfectly healed and my health greatly improved.

BBB FOR THE BLOOD

Tailors' Bad Backs.

The cramped up position in which a tailor works comes hard on his kidneys and hard on his back. Very few escape backache, pain in the side and urinary troubles of one kind and another.

Oftentimes the first warnings of kidney disease are neglected—think it will be all right in a day or two—but sick kidneys won't get well without help.

DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS

Are the best friend of kidneys needing assistance. Read the proof from a tailor who has tried them.

Mr. John Robertson, merchant tailor, Durham, Ont., gives his experience as follows:

"I had been ailing with my kidneys for more than a year when I commenced taking Doan's Kidney Pills, which I got at McFarlane's drug store, and am sincerely glad that I did so. The wrong action of my kidneys made me sick all over and caused me much inconvenience and pain. That is now a thing of the past, because Doan's Kidney Pills cured me. I have had no trouble or inconvenience with my kidneys or back since I took these remarkable pills, and you may be sure that I gladly recommend them to other sufferers."

DIAMOND STARS PEARL PENDANTS PEARL STICK PINS

We have a very choice selection to show you, and our prices are the lowest, considering quality.

LAMPMAN BROS.

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12 KING STREET WEST, HAMILTON.

ORDNANCE LAND SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that there will be offered for sale by Public Auction the undermentioned Ordnance Lands, namely:

TORONTO.

On Wednesday, 4th July, at 12 o'clock noon, on the premises, Lot No. 1, North Wellington Avenue, Toronto.

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE.

On Thursday, the 5th July, at 2 p. m., at Niagara-on-the-Lake, on the ground, six building lots (69 ft. 2 in. x 420 ft.) beautifully situated between Queen and Johnson streets, being a sub-division of Lots Nos. 79, 80, 89 and 90 (Hospital Lots) of the Military Reserve at that place.

FORT ERIE.

On Friday, the 6th July, at 2 p.m., at Fort Erie, on the ground, 22 large lots, situated between the Village and the Old Fort, together with several smaller lots on Albany and Huron streets, all in the Village of Fort Erie, Ontario.

An upset price will be placed on each lot. Plans may be seen and full particulars obtained at the Ordnance Lands Office, Department of the Interior, also at the office of Mr. Salem Eckardt, Auctioneer, 108 Wellington Place, Toronto, Mr. W. H. I. Evans, Niagara-on-the-Lake, and Mr. Jos. G. Cadham, Auctioneer, Niagara Falls, Ontario.

TERMS OF PAYMENT.

One-fifth of the purchase money to be paid down at the time of sale, and the balance in four equal annual instalments with interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum on any part of the purchase money remaining at any time unpaid. Further conditions will be made known at the time of sale.

By order,
P. G. KEYES,
Secretary.

Department of the Interior,
Ottawa, 6th June, 1900.

Nothing after all is

More Refreshing

—THAN A CUP OF—

GOOD TEA.

Harrigan, the Grocer,

Offers excellent value in Teas, in various flavors, at 25c a lb. Also

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Rye Whiskey (two years old) 70c a quart.
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