

SELECTING A HUSBAND.

Capture Him While He Is Still Young, Docile and Plastic.

Because it is the duty of every woman to marry some man it by no means follows that she is deprived of the privilege of making a wise discrimination. On the contrary, to fulfill her mission as completely as possible she should exercise the greatest care in selecting a mate. Time was when she had no say in the matter, and in some countries she has little or none today, but in this happily civilized land she still possesses and will undoubtedly hold for all time the right first to choose and then ensure. It is a noble prerogative—one, in our judgment, that should be appreciated and cherished above all others. And yet, as we have observed, it should be exercised with caution. Let nothing be left to chance, as Plato would have had it when he decreed that pairing should be done by lot. While not overwise, be at least particular in order that the one chosen may feel honored by the distinction conferred upon him and so be the more readily induced to show his undying gratefulness.

Much that was thought and written years ago on how to choose a wife was good enough for the time, but the recent reversal of the relative attitudes of seeker and sought renders it valueless. Nevertheless, despite the fact that in considering the points to be heeded and the precautions to be observed by womankind we find ourselves in a family field, certain general principles may be regarded as established. It is best, for example, to capture a husband while he is still young, docile and plastic. Preferably also he should be in love. He may then be trained after the manner best calculated to serve the convenience of her for whom thenceforth he must and should toil.—George Harvey in *North American Review*.

OUR LARGEST SCALES.

The Monster Weighing Machine in the Washington Navy Yard.

The biggest scales in the country are in the navy yard at Washington. They outweigh the largest railway scales by fifty tons. The latter are not to be sneezed at, for they easily weigh as much as a heavily loaded car. The navy yard scales are so accurate that they come within a pound of the exact weight. Railway scales are considered good if they come within fifty pounds. All the large ordnance manufactured for the navy is weighed upon this machine, which is some ten years old. The scales look like ordinary hay scales.

The delicate mechanism is invisible, the most intricate parts being in a broad pit below the ground. The platform is forty-eight feet long and twelve feet wide. Beneath the powerful machinery is a cement base laid upon long piles. A solid base being one of the prime requisites of a powerful weighing machine, it was found necessary to use a pile driver to secure a stable foundation.

The machine is regarded as the finest of its kind in the world and is a splendid achievement of American ingenuity. In order to show the accuracy of the scales an official picked up half a brick and tossed it upon the platform. He then consulted a long brass lever and found that the brick weighed just one pound.

The capacity of the scales is 150 tons. Two twelve-inch guns lying on a forty-eight foot car truck can be weighed on the machine without taxing its capacity.—*Washington Star*.

"I Trust You."

"I owe my salvation to three words you spoke," he wrote. "When all the world was against me you said, 'I trust you.'"

If every boy or girl who has made mistakes and gone astray could have such a friend a great many of them would return to a normal life. The feeling that somebody believes in us, trusts us, no matter what others believe or say, touches the heart. Criminals are sometimes totally reformed through the consciousness that somebody still believes in them, no matter how low they may have fallen. Could we realize how much this trust and confidence would do for a man when everything else has failed we should be more generous of our confidence in our fellows.—*Success Magazine*.

No Decoration Required.

It was Mr. Hobart's first experience with waffles, and he liked the taste of them. When he had been served twice he called the waiter to him and spoke confidentially.

"I'm from Pokeville," he said, "and we're plain folks there. Don't care much for style, but we know good food when we get it. I want another plateful o' those cakes, but you tell the cook she needn't stop to put that fancy printing on 'em; just send 'em along plain."—*Youth's Companion*.

Terrible Fate.

There is something which will appeal to every American in the horror of a fate invoked upon Henry James, Sr., by his son, the novelist, and recorded in the letters of E. L. Godkin. The young man had been worsted in argument and exclaimed:

"Then may your mashed potatoes always have lumps in them!"—*Youth's Companion*.

Just as Fresh.

Mrs. Newbord—Are these eggs as fresh as the ones I got from you last week? The Grocer—Oh, yes! Some of the same lot, ma'am. I've been keeping 'em for you.—*Pick-Me-Up*.

Old age is, as it were, the altar of life. We may see them all taking refuge in it.—*Marcus Aurelius*.

THE MARKETS

Accurate prices paid by Decatur merchants for various products. Corrected every day at 2 o'clock.

EAST BUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 6.—Market steady.

Prime steers \$5.60

Medium steers \$4.50

Stockers to best feeders \$3.75

Receipts, hogs, 30 cars; market steady.

Mediums and heavies \$5.00

Workers \$4.95

Pigs \$4.80

Receipts, sheep, 20 cars; market steady.

Best spring lambs \$7.75

Wether sheep \$5.25

Culls, slipped \$3.40

CHICAGO MARKETS.

July wheat 99%

May wheat 107%

July corn 60%

May corn 61 1/2

July oats 48%

May oats 54%

PITTSBURG MARKETS.

Jan. 6.—Hog supply, 15 cars; market steady.

Heavies \$5.00

Mediums \$4.50

Workers \$4.50

Light \$4.95

Pigs \$4.80

TOLEDO MARKETS.

Cash wheat 102 1/2

May wheat 107 1/2

Cash corn 61

May corn 61

Cash oats 54%

May oats 54%

PRODUCE.

By Decatur Produce Co.

Eggs 23¢

Butter 18¢

Fowls 7¢

Chicks 7¢

Ducks 7¢

Geese 8¢

Turkeys, young 12¢

Turkeys, toms 9¢

Turkeys, hens 9¢

HIDES.

By B. Kalver and Son.

Beef hides 4 1/2¢

Calf hides 7¢

Tallow 4¢

Sheep pelts 25¢ @ \$1.25

Mink 50¢ @ \$4.00

Muskrat 5¢ @ \$4.00

Coon 10¢ @ \$1.00

Possum 10¢ @ \$1.00

Porcupine 5¢ @ 25¢

NOTICE.

Any one knowing themselves indebted to the late Mathias Schafer will please call and settle with Mrs. Catherine Schafer, and any one holding any claim against the estate will please present the same at once.

313-31 Mrs. Catherine Schafer.

LOST—Fountain pen between Lehne's jewelry store and the Elks hall. Finder please return to this office.

LOST—"Coney" or the Bible.

W. Pett Ridge, a London writer,

made a London boy in one of his stories offer the following rather original prayer:

"Lord, wilt thou 'ave the

kindness to make me grow strong and

tall and with plenty to say for myself,

and wilt thou do this as soon as thou

can find time, so's to save me exp-

ense and waste of money that might be

found to be in other ways—say for a

cricket bat? Believe me, Lord, thy

obedient servant, A. Martin."

He rose. He was halfway into his blue flannel bed gown when an important idea occurred to him, and he knelt down again quickly.

"Should 'ave mentioned," he whispered, "Elfred Martin of 53 Cawstle street, just over Surrey side of Southark bridge."

Both Out and In.

The Needy One—I say, old man,

could you lend me a dollar for a day

or two? The Other One—My dear fel-

low, the dollar I lend is out at present,

and I've several names down for it

when it comes back.—*Harper's Weekly*.

Impertinent.

When I was coming home last

night," said Miss Skeery, "I saw a man

skulking along in the shadow. Oh,

how I ran!" "An' couldn't you catch him?" inquired her little brother in-

cidentally.—*Cleveland Leader*.

"I Knew Mother."

"See here," cried the boy's father,

"if you don't behave I'll whip you!"

"I won't be bad," replied the bad boy.

"You do, eh?"

"Yes, 'cause when it's all over we

will have some candy."—*Exchanges*.

THE MAKINGS OF GLUE

Not a definite organic substance, but product of transformations.

Glue is not a definite, positive organic substance, as most people suppose. Chemists tell us that glue does not pre-exist in any animal organism except under abnormal conditions—as in disease—but is the product of several transformations.

The first transformation takes place in drying the hide. If a green hide is boiled after being prepared in exactly the same manner by liming, etc., while it is yet green, an entirely different product of less consistency is secured than by drying the hide after liming and then boiling.

The second transformation seems to take place in boiling the material, probably from action of the heat. The third transformation occurs in the drying of the jelly secured in the boiling operation.

Still another transformation occurs in the drying of this jelly into actual glue, and this series of changes does not end here, for glue dissolved in water and again boiled sufficiently long loses its form once more and will not gelatinize, but will remain in liquid form.

Glue yielding substances are produced by the animal economy from protein bodies, albumen, fibrin and casein. The impossibility of preserving for any length of time the stock from which glue is made renders it necessary to adopt some system in choosing and preserving it until sufficient quantities are collected without fermentation or decomposition. Hence the refuse from tanneries consisting of the clippings of hides, ears and tail-pieces of ox, calf and sheep and from skins of other animals are preferred because they can be dressed with lime, which removes the hair and acts as an antiseptic.

The ordinary bone stock glue is made from the larger bones of cattle and horn pits, collected from different sources. A large quantity of waste bone is accumulated in the preparation of tinned provisions.

If these have not been overheated and are in good condition a considerable amount of glue can be obtained from them. The bones from the head, ribs and feet give a better yield than those of the thighs and legs.

There is also the hoof glue, which is made from the hoofs of different animals. Then there is glue made from sinews and fleshings, and also a grade known as rabbit glue made from the skins of hares and rabbits. This glue makes a good water test, but should never be used to cement a belt. There is a large quantity of this glue made in this country, and a person not very familiar with it could easily be deceived.

The age of animals yielding glue stock has an important influence on the product. While from younger animals the production as a rule is of a lighter color, more abundant and more easily obtained, it contains more chondrin, so that for solutions of equal strength those from mature animals will be found to be of the greater consistency and the glue more solid.

Then again there is what is known as the pig stock glue, which is made from the feet of hogs. Next comes the fish glue or isinglass. Its varieties are numerous, and thorough knowledge of them can only be obtained when one is personally acquainted with the different factories and stock from which they are made.

The best of this material, however, is made from the sounds or air bladders of the different species of fish. The air bladders of the common sturgeon and other fish caught in northerly climates make the best.—*Wood Craft*.

A London Lad's Prayer.

W. Pett Ridge, a London writer, made a London boy in one of his stories offer the following rather original prayer:

"Lord, wilt thou 'ave the kindness to make me grow strong and tall and with plenty to say for myself, and wilt thou do this as soon as thou can find time, so's to save me exp-

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