

# WOOING in FOREIGN LANDS BY BEAU BRUMMEL



THE American girl is so accustomed to a short, romantic courtship which reaches its climax in a large wedding with a double ring service, she imagines girls are wood and won in the same way everywhere. Though men are courted and girls are won the world over, there are many strange and unusual customs associated with the winning.

Even in Europe marriages are made much more conventionally than in this country, and it is only in most recent times that young men have been allowed to court girls without the consent and aid of their parents. But in France to-day among the haut monde the parents of the young man must be counseled, and unless he is 25 years old he cannot marry the girl without their consent. A far wiser way for him to do is to talk with the parents. If the girl is attractive and the family is congenial the parents of the young man make overtures to the girl's parents. They are soon on a friendly footing and the question as to what the girl's dot shall be is an important point at issue.

The Chinese, along with the Turks, believe that a girl is far better off dead than unmarried. Though they are exceedingly anxious to have their daughters married they believe it is beneath their dignity to carry on these negotiations themselves, but leave this work to a professional matchmaker. The go-between visits the different homes alone, where she takes note of the age, education, social position and wealth of the different girls. She then gives a long and accurate account of the girl's family. One is selected from this number, and if both parties are satisfied the affair is handed over to the necromancer. If the stars say the young people are selected wisely the betrothal is announced. But the matchmaker has still a part to play.

Shortly before the marriage she brings the young girl the gifts the groom would send her. These usually include a leg of pork, a bag of money, two bottles of wine, and two candles. But the girl is expected to return a part of these offerings. The Chinese parents do not believe it is necessary for young persons to love each other so long as the augur is satisfied. The young man rarely sees the girl until after they are married. When the bride arrives at the home of the bridegroom he is there to meet her, but when she steps out she is so veiled that her features are hidden. He leads her into the room where the ceremony will take place. Then he seats himself on a high chair to show his superiority and she prostrates herself before him until he lifts the veil and sees for the first time his future wife's face.

The Russians are another people who believe that marriage is the only natural and rational destiny for a woman. Confident that Cupid is a foolish and erratic boy whose judgment is not always the wisest, they make use of a matchmaker, called a svacha. She is a most important personage, and when her judgment, which is excellent, fails her she can call the stars, diamonds, hearts and clubs to her aid.

But the marriage ceremonies are even more complicated. On the day before the wedding the bride is conducted to her bath. There her friends spend long hours combing her hair and while away the time singing and talking of what her daily life will be after she is married. The ceremony is performed with the rites of the eastern church and takes place eight days before the marriage. The service is divided into three parts. The first is where the bride and bridegroom are crowned with crowns of silver filigree, and lastly comes the dissolution of the crowns.

Though matchmakers are not employed in Japan, love matches are exceedingly rare, and it is not un-

promised land for the toilers in the east."

A while ago there was circulated through the islands a petition praying at Washington, says Army and Navy Life. How many American people know, for example, that Mindanao is a little virgin empire, with millions of acres of the richest land in the world, now idle and fallow, but capable of enormous production? An American officer who has just returned from there calls it "the pearl in the golden setting of the archipelago, the

son with the Philippine archipelago and the benefits accruing to American consumers of her products are slight in contrast with those which would come with the extension of our customs to include the Philippines.

#### Popularity of Some Men.

There are some men who are so popular that they act as if a man ought to regard it as a privilege to have one of them regularly borrow his tobacco of him.—Somerville Journal.

## MUCH RICH LAND IN MINDANAO

Big Island Has Millions of Acres Now Lying Idle.

Americans have taken the acquisition of the Philippines as a matter of fact. The islands are so far away, and there is so much of pressing interest right at hand, that the manner of arranging our new responsibilities and discharging our new obligations,

#### HOME BETTER THAN "CAREER."

So Declares Woman Who Has Made Big Success in Business.

The distinction of being the highest salaried woman in New York, in the opinion of Miss Anna Louise Amendt, who draws something near \$20,000 a year, does not compensate for the sacrifice of domestic ties which such a success exacts.

This is what Miss Amendt, who is the most valuable employee of the biggest real estate concern in New York, told a writer who visited her beautifully appointed office:

"I suppose many women envy me, but, to my mind, to be a good mother and wife is the grandest of all successes. Home is the natural sphere for every woman, and no matter in what direction her lines may be cast she cannot entirely shake off that desire to reign as its queen some time."

"It is just this one ruling element in her life that prevents her from attaining equal success with men. The average girl lives in hope that some day a husband will come along and shoulder her burden. It is only when she rids herself of this thought that definite success in business comes, for concentration is one of the keynotes to success."

"Another thing: Women are doubtful of their ability to accomplish vast results, and it is impossible to do a thing as long as a doubt rests in your mind."

"When I started out to earn my living I began as a stenographer with a salary of \$16 a week. It was not such a great while until my check was increased to \$50. That did not look so big to me, but it would have satisfied the average woman."

"My checks continued to increase until they ran into the thousands. Of course, my usefulness had increased, for I was not satisfied with being a stenographer. I had learned every phase of the business and could put a big deal through with as much ability as could any man in the office. I prepared all of the literature. In fact, there is no part of the business with which I am not familiar."

"But with all my success I would not advise the young girl to seek a career. For in my belief, the girl who gets married is on the right road to happiness. Success in all lines is hard."

Went Willingly to Crocodile.

It has been said that the Australian blacks never commit suicide; that self-destruction does not come within their philosophy. The author of "Confessions of a Beachcomber" mentions a case of recent date which he thinks might be regarded as in conflict with that view: "A member of the Clump Point tribe, painfully afflicted with a vexatious skin disease, was fishing at the mouth of a creek when his hook fouled. To a companion he said he would dive to get it clear. His friend endeavored to dissuade him, reminding him of the crocodile which they had seen but a short time before.

"But the boy, worn with pain and weary with never-ending irritation, said if he was taken, 'Never mind. Good job, we finished then.' He dived and there was a commotion in the water.

"The boy appeared on the surface, making frantic appeals for help while the crocodile worried him. He escaped for a moment and his friend clutched his hand and drew him to the bank, only to have him torn from his grasp."

Forehand.

Little Katherine had been boarding on a farm this summer and many of the rural expressions are wholly unfamiliar to her. One day she chanced to hear her country hostess praising the good qualities of a certain thrifty neighbor.

"He really ain't got much, compared to some folks," said the farmer's wife, "but he makes out wonderfully well; he's so handsome."

That evening the man thus lauded happened to drop in, and Katherine immediately sidled up to him, with curious eyes. Slowly she revolved about the chair in which he sat, and so persistently did she gaze at him that the farmer's wife finally noticed

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