

MEN AND WOMEN.

The great German General Von Moltke married Miss Burt, a plain, not very cultivated girl, and lived most happily with her until her death, which took place on Christmas Eve, 1868. Very touching was his devotion to her memory. Upon his estate at Kreisan he built a mausoleum, situated on the eminence embowered in foliage. In front of the altar of this little chapel was placed the simple oak coffin, always covered with leaves, in which the remains of his wife reposed. Sculptured in the apex was a finely carved figure of our Lord in an attitude of blessing. Above were inscribed the words 'Love is the fulfilment of the law.'

When a boy, 11 years old, retired a few nights since his eyes were as usual. In the morning the pupils were dilated, fixed, not influenced by light. He could not distinguish light from darkness. No cause for the condition could be found until the teeth were examined, when it was seen that they were crowded and wedged together. Two permanent and four temporary teeth were extracted. The same night he could distinguish light from darkness, the next day objects, and in a few days his eyes were in a normal condition. He had no other treatment.

The poet Heine married a woman who could hardly read and write, and who was quite incapable of understanding what he wrote. Goethe, the greatest of Germans, married his housekeeper.

An experimental race was recently made in a French office between a skilful typist and an expert Frenchman, the test being the number of times a phrase of eight words could be reproduced in five minutes. The typist scored thirty-seven and the penman twenty-three.

A curious custom prevails in Bulgaria. All newly married women are obliged to remain dumb for a month after marriage, except when addressed by their husbands. When it is desirable to remove this restriction permanently the husband presents her with a gift and then she can chatter to her heart's content.

London contains about one-eighth of Great Britain's population, has a larger daily delivery of letters than all Scotland, a birth every minute and a death every six.

There is a hope which is one of the most subtle and deceitful which ever existed, and one which wrecks the happiness of many a young girl's life. This is the common delusion that a woman can best reform a man by marrying him. It is a mystery how people can be so blinded to the hundreds of cases in every community where tottering homes have fallen and innocent lives have been wrecked, because some young girl has persisted in marrying a scoundrel in the hope of saving him. Such unions can result in nothing but sadness and disaster. Let no young girl think that she may be able to accomplish what a loving mother or sympathetic sisters have been unable to do.

Why is it that a young widow is usually fascinating? Her charm is one which experience alone can give. She understands men. She knows the strength and weakness of men as no unmarried woman can know them, and knowledge is power. She has learnt a man's tastes, and she suits herself to them. She knows a man loves to be made comfortable, and she attends to his personal welfare. She knows he delights in being amused, and she makes herself amusing and entertaining. She has found out that an interest in himself is the thing man most appreciates in woman, and she shows him frankly how deep that interest is. She has perhaps learnt to take an interest in all mankind from her experience with one; that is a simple solution of the matter.

Among the Roman women at one period there was a morbid ambition to grow beards, and they used to shave their faces and smear them with unguents to produce these inappropriate appendages. Cicero

tells us that at one time to such an extent did the mania for beards grow upon women that it was found desirable to pass a law against the 'adornment.'

A writer in a leading magazine has made the prophecy that in 300 years from now the world will know only three languages—English, Russian and Chinese. The English language will be spoken all over North and South America, in Australia, India, Africa, New Zealand and the islands of Australia and the Pacific. The Russian tongue will have conquered all Europe except Great Britain and all Asia except India. Chinese will hold sway over the rest of the world.

Etiquette has been defined as 'the oil that makes the wheels of society run smoothly,' and no one will deny that a reasonably fixed code of social observance is useful and even necessary. But how deliciously funny some of our customs are. One of the most absurd of these, the 'high' handshake, is to be chronicled thankfully as rapidly becoming obsolete. It has for several years been the absurdest burlesque of friendly greeting.

In Russia a child of ten years of age cannot go away from home to school without a passport. Nor can common servants and peasants go away from where they live without one. A gentleman residing in Moscow or St. Petersburg cannot receive the visit of a friend who remains many hours without notifying the police. The porters of all houses are compelled to make returns of the arrival and departure of strangers, and for every one of the above passengers a charge is made of some kind.

Mr David Christie Murray, writing of America and the Americans, says:—'Nowhere on the surface of this planet, so far as I know, is popular credulity in such contrast with learning and capacity. The newspaper advertisements show you a hundred of the oddest ways of getting a living out of the folly and stupidity of mankind and womankind. The very name of American is with us a synonym for shrewdness and mental agility, and yet a casual glance at the advertising pages of the public prints shows you an abyss of ignorance, credulity, and superstition in which countless creatures of prey are at work on the body of a foolish humanity. Contrast heaps itself on contrast; strangeness crowds on strangeness. I have just laid down on the table before me a very beautifully printed and illustrated magazine, one of the cheap publications which somehow we have not been able so far to rival on our side. I find in it a full-page advertisement of a nostrum which is guaranteed to 'make the plainest woman positively beautiful: the sickest woman positively healthy.' Somebody pays for that, and it is certainly not the advertiser who does so in the last instance. Further on I read in the same pages:—'A beautiful woman must not only possess a clear and brilliant complexion, but must have also a properly developed bust. No matter how severe your case, write me, and I will make you a proud and happy woman.' I wonder how many proud and happy women owe their pride and happiness to this benefactress of their kind. 'Any lady made to look fifteen years younger without charge' is an announcement in another publication now under my eye. An 'eye powder,' whatever that may be, is offered to all ladies 'who wish to be beautiful.'

The wives of great men have much to bear. The wife of the late Professor Agassiz was one morning putting on her stockings and boots. A little scream attracted the Professor's attention. Not having risen, he leaned forward anxiously on his elbow and inquired what was the matter. 'Why, a little snake has just crawled out of my boot!' cried she. 'Only one, my dear?' interrupted the Professor, calmly lying down again. 'There should have been three.' He had put them there to keep them warm.

The most intricately decorated graves in the world are the negro graves in Zululand. Some of these mounds are garlanded with the bottles of medicine used by the departed in their final illness, and the duration of the malady is guessed by the number of bottles.



The idea of the great electrician Edison's marrying was first suggested by an intimate friend, who told him that his large house and numerous servants ought to have a mistress. Although a very shy man, he seemed pleased with the proposition, and timidly inquired whom he should marry. The friend, annoyed at his apparent want of sentiment, somewhat testily replied, 'Any one.'

After a summer shower you must have often noticed that fresh, curious, but not unpleasant odour that rises from the new watered earth. Lately it occurred to a well-known man of science to investigate the cause. It proves to be produced by a new compound never before discovered, of which in a pound of soil less than one hundred thousandth part of an ounce exists. This compound has, as far as known, some of the properties of camphor, but so very little could be obtained that there was much difficulty in conducting the experiment.

Von Moltke was an early riser, and loved early risers. Once, while roaming around the Silesian estate at daybreak, he found a woman bearing on her back a sack of potatoes which she had just dug, making a load heavy enough for a mule. 'Here's a thaler for you,' said the great Field Marshal; 'you see, the early bird catches the worm.' Afterward he found out that she was a night thief, who had ravaged his fields persistently, but whom his steward had never got up early enough to catch.

In 1875 a law was passed prohibiting the use of the portraits of living men on the United States stamps, thus placing living men in the same position that women occupied, whether dead or alive, for no woman's portrait has ever graced a stamp belonging to the United States, postal or revenue.

When Fred Archer, England's famous jockey, once consulted one of England's most famous surgeons, the surgeon said: 'You must not think me rude, Mr Archer, but I take no interest in any branch of sport, and I have never heard your name.' 'Well,' said Archer, 'I hope you won't think me rude, either, but till a friend advised me to consult you I had never heard your name, either, and when I asked my friend who you were, he said: "He is the Fred Archer of the surgical profession."'

A man recently, in New York, laid a wager that he would woo, win and marry within an hour a young lady whom, with his companions, he had just seen arrive at the hotel where he was living. There is nothing in the American marriage law to prevent this despatch. He introduced himself to the damsel; she smiled upon his suit, and a minister was called in and they were married within an hour. The wager, of no inconsiderable amount, was handed over to the bridegroom, who left with his bride on the following day. It was shortly afterwards discovered that the couple had long been man and wife, and that they had been travelling about playing the same trick at various hotels.

Von Humboldt, the great scientist, when on a visit to Dutch Hazler, near Bristol Bay, predicted that the mother vein of gold would show itself in Alaska in a parallel line. Recent discoveries indicate that this prophecy has been fulfilled.

If you are a true smoker, you will never really love more than one pipe at a time. You will possibly flirt with others, winking at them as they urge you from your mantelpiece: patent pipes, wrapped in a sheet of directions for use, hygienic pipes, self-ejectment pipes, unbreakable pipes, non-dripping pipes, non-alcoholic pipes, all of them unsmokable pipes. These are the passing follies of youth, though there are some people who never grow up. You will, therefore, select your pipe with care, reflecting that you are choosing a partner of your life, one that will be near you by day, and lie by your side at night—on the table by your bed.

PONSONBY AT HOME.

JUVENILE BALL.

The above Plain and Fancy Draw Ball will be held in the

PONSONBY HALL,

ON FRIDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 29th, At 7.30 p.m.

'BUS LEAVES CHORAL HALL AT 7 P.M. NORMAN BAKER, Hon. Sec.



District Land and Survey Office, Auckland, 7th October, 1897.

THE UNDERMENTIONED TOWNSHIP AND RURAL LANDS will be submitted for Sale by Public Auction at this Office on FRIDAY, the 26th day of November, 1897, at 11 o'clock a.m.

SCHEDULE.

TOWNSHIP OF HOWICK—Lot 32, Section 2, 2r 14p. Upset price, £11 15s. SURBURBS OF MERCER—Lot 10, 3a 3r 15p. Total upset price, £7 13s 3d. Fronts the Waikato River, about one mile from Mercer, and adjoins Waikato. TOWN OF OPUA—Lot 1, Block XXXII.: 17 perches. Upset price, £2 2s 6d. WAIPARA PAINTSH—Lot 14, Section 4: 1a 3r 30p. Total upset price, £1 10s. TUTAMOE S.D. (Hokitanga County)—Block 8, Section 1: 24 acres. Total upset price, £57 15s. Two-thirds Fern Land; balance Forest, with 50 Kauri Trees (about 200,000ft). On the Opuake River; about four miles from Mangakahia. WAIPARA S.D. (Hokitanga County)—Block XI., Section 13: 75a 2r 30p. Total upset, £100. Undulating Clay Land; mixed Forest, with 46 Kauri Trees (about 160,000ft). Adjoins the Opuake and a few good Totara Trees. There are Driving Creeks, with dams in use on each side of section. Situated eight miles from Kaitiaki Railway Station, by dray roads.

TERMS OF SALE.

One-fifth Cash on fall of hammer, and the balance, with Crown Grant Fee, within 30 days thereafter, otherwise the one-fifth paid by way of deposit will be forfeited, and the contract for the sale of the land be null and void.

GERHARD MUELLER, Commissioner Crown Lands.



District Lands and Survey Office, Auckland, 7th October, 1897.

NOTICE is hereby given that a Lease of the undermentioned Crown Land, for a term of seven years, will be submitted for Sale by Public Auction, at the District Land and Survey Office, Auckland, on FRIDAY, the 26th day of November, 1897, at 11 a.m.

MOTUKARAKA ISLAND (Section 1, Block IV., Otago S.D.), containing 7a 2r 35p. Upset price, £100. First-class agricultural land, in grass, about 2 miles from Howick Wharf. Steamers pass the island daily. Subject to £25 for roading, ploughing, and grassing.

TERMS OF LEASE.

Seven years from 1st January, 1898, without right of renewal. No compensation for improvements at any time. Rent payable half-yearly in advance. The lessee will be permitted to use the island for grazing purposes only.

GERHARD MUELLER, Commissioner Crown Lands.

"DENOUNCING THE TREATIES."

To some people this phrase, recently seen in the cables from England, conveys the idea that there is a malediction about Mr Chamberlain's intentions regarding foreign nations.

It is not quite so severe as that. It means that he will give notice that the "most favoured nation" clause they now enjoy in the recently signed Treaty with England will be terminated, and that the colonies will be permitted, if they choose, to charge higher duties on foreign than on British goods.

For instance, the majority of the pianos imported come from the Continent. Beet sugar is another article, and upon which the German Government pay high bounties, so as to compete with sugarcane from Mauritius and Queensland.

Mr Chamberlain's commercial mind has grasped the fact that in the British Possessions necessities of life can be grown on British soil without depending on the Continent for sugar or China for tea. China has recently shown a high attitude to England by arranging with foreign Powers for railways, and Mr Chamberlain intends to give it a lesson. He has recently said to his foreign friends that when you are well off, I'll give the colonies leave to send their produce home on Free Trade terms, and I'll give them a charge extra duties on goods produced outside our Empire. This will give them an opportunity to reimport with Cayenne, a British article, at duty free, and a prohibitive tariff put on the production of the Chinaman, and so bind the Anglians to their markets. The result will be that the British Empire will be something better than mere sentiment.

Excellent Sugarcane Tea is not blended with Indian Opium, and it is a fact that wonderfully economic household materials you are encouraging the PRODUCTION OF BRITISH TEA IN THE BRITISH ISLANDS. THE CHINA MAN FROM CHINESE HILL.