WHY MEN DO NOT MARRY.

The English Solution of an Interesting Social Problem.

The English marriage market has become an arena of competition as keen as any auction-room, says a writer in the *Whitehall Review*. The natural impulses of women are disregarded. Mothers advise prudent alliances, and discountenance, by fair means or foul, love-matches. Girls choke down their feelings, and aid and abet their seniors in encouraging men who are "catches" throwing off the restraints which made their grandmothers charming. But still the cry goes up, "Men do not marry." And yet the most inveterate club-man, the mocker at love in a cottage, was once a youth not blase, to whom the vision of a home was enchanting. Almost every man tries his hand at realizing some such dream early in life; but the attempt is usually nipped in the bud by want of means, or by failure to win the particular woman on whom his heart is set. He suffers acutely; but man is an elastic creature; in time he mingles again with the world, not entirely proof against feminine fascination, but finding it almost impossible to set up an ideal. Matrons with attractive daughters can not complain that their girls see few men. The tendency of the age is to level the barriers between the sexes; girls play tennis, they row, they rink, they skate, they sit in the smoking-room, they dance, not only in the evenings, but in the afternoons. The natural tendency of such intimate association would be matrimony. But the fact is, that men who might have had serious intentions are frightened off before liking begets love. There is an all-prevailing fear prevading the intercourse of young people which is altogether detrimental. The instant a pair begin to show any particular liking for each other's society the wide world around them is instantly on the qui vive. The mother watches, fosses, reports to her cronies, and too often catechises the girl, wounding her sense of delicacy and making her conscious and constrained; or, leading her to imagine herself beloved, when the man's feeling is only that of pleasure in the society of a young woman who does her best to make herself agreeable. Men are usually ignorant how girls note and weigh the attentions they receive, and that they impart the details of such homage to sympathetic—if envious—feminine ears, thus giving body to vague nothings, and brooding over trifles till they gather shape. Meanwhile, the man, having said the pretty things his idea of politeness has prompted, goes away, forgetting them and their recipient, while she is expecting a declaration as the result of a few soft nothings, a squeeze of the hand, or tender glances. Women are not aware, on the other hand, how sincerely he may like and admire a girl without a thought beyond mere good will. And it is precisely the better kind of man who falls into the misfortune of raising false hopes; the man who believes in the simplicity and candor of women, desires their sympathy and values their regard. A man of the world has the instinct of self-preservation developed strongly enough for his protection. The sense of safety is the real bond of many of the alliances now so fashionable—sometimes salutary, often mischievous—between men and married women. Kept within bounds no suspicion attaches to them, no hopes are built upon them. The lady receives the petits soins dear to the female nature, which the husband of long standing often neglects; the man receives the sympathy grateful to the masculine creature. Men feel this without analyzing their sentiments, and it is a common complaint among them nowadays that it is impossible to become well acquainted with a girl without exciting the too lively anxiety of her friends. And no wise man proposes without knowing the character of the girl he wishes to marry. The mothers who are so eager for their daughts establishment are wise, although precipitation is indecorous.

How a Buxom Widow Got Married

A widow, young, good-looking, and lively, had many admirers, but she was so impartial that when, just about a year from her husband's death, she gave public invitations to her wedding, nobody could tell whether the favorite one was a certain widower, a bachelor, or one of two young men, and, to keep the secret, she declared she would be married in a barn of hers in the dark. The minister, too, entered into the spirit of the affair, and to mystify the people still more, the bride entered the barn alone at one door and the groom at another. There were at least 200 present. The ceremony proceeded in darkness, and at its close the crowd broke for the bride, and carried her home in triumph in a chair. But here began the trouble, the widower, the bachelor, and the two young men each swore that he had held the widow's plump hand and was married to her; the crowd could not decide, the minister didn't know, and the widow was puzzled, for all claimed to be engaged to her, and though the widower was her choice he might have been jolted aside; indeed he acknowledged that somebody tried to choke him in the dark. The four men fought, but that didn't settle it. The guests ducked two of them in the brook, but still no light. Finally the widower compromised with the others by giving them £100 each, and reigned as her lord. The affair has never been explained. One of the young men is married, but still declares that he was married to Widow Dodsworth in the big barn. The other also protests that he is her lawful husband. The bachelor is dead, but maintained to the end, "I married her—I ought to have her!"

A Hint for Persons Contemplating Bankruptcy.

In the tin box of a gentleman recently deceased, the executors found $10,000 bonds of a certain southern railway, dated long before the war.

The bonds were forwarded to a well known Wall street banker to dispose of. As the bonds were not listed on the New York Stock Exthange, they were turned over to a broker in unlisted securities. The broker's experiences were remarkable and unique. In his efforts to make a sale he stumbled over an Israelite. The latter said:

"I cannot buy $10,000 of those bonds. You gather $100,000 of them and we will talk business. They are worthless, and $100,000 will not cost more than $10,000."

"But why do you insist upon $100,000?" asked the innocent and surprised broker.

"Because," returned the Israelite, "I can sell $100,000 bonds easier than I can sell $10,000. If you was going to fail, and knew your creditors were disposed to be unfriendly and disagreeable, how delightful it would be to pull down your tin box and haul out $100,000 of these bonds. 'Gentlemen,' you say to your creditors, 'these represented good money once, dollar for dollar; but alas for the south and its repudiation.' There you are. What are they going to do about it?"

In conversation with the broker our reporter was assured that hundreds of thousands of these worthless and repudiated southern bonds had been bought from estates by dishonest bankrupts, and turned in as assets to deceive and swindle creditors.—*N. Y. Cons. Adver.*

When an Ohio man goes into the woods for a couple of days, on a fishing or hunting excursion, the first question he asks on his return is, "Have I been nominated for any office while I was gone?"

Tell the children to cut out and save the comic silhouette pictures as they appear from issue to issue. They will be pleased with the collection.

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Of course we mean the famous animal appearing on the label of every genuine package of Blackwell's Bull Durham smoking tobacco. Every package bears this, the best of Smoking Tobacco made. Some counterfeits without trademark of the Bull.

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ESTABLISHMENT

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All Sittings Made Within One Second.

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Perfumery, Brushes and fancy articles for the toilet. The very best Pure Wines and Liquors for Medicinal purposes.

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THANKS. THANKS.

We desire through this medium to thank the people of Birmingham and vicinity for the very liberal patronage they have given us during the past year, enabling us to do a business far in excess of our most sanguine expectations; and placing us in a position to serve their interests during the coming year in a better manner than ever before.

Our experience in the retail trade has taught us just what the people need. An extensive experience in the wholesale trade has taught us how to purchase goods at the lowest possible prices, which is of course the first necessary requisite in trade, and the foundation for our low prices.

With the opening of the spring season, we have the pleasure to announce the daily arrival of new spring goods, purchased always with a view to their durability, beauty of style, elegance of finish, and ability to place on the market at the lowest possible price, consistent with a legitimate dealing in first class goods. We desire to call special attention to our new spring stock of

Embroideries,

All over Yokings,

Laces,

White Goods,

Etc., Etc.

In Domestics we are recognized as leaders in low prices.

We are showing an elegant line of dress goods for early spring and school wear, this special line ranging in price from 25 to 50 cents per yard, all warranted not to shrink or cockle, and are guaranteed not to fade when washed.

For medium priced goods, we consider them the best and most serviceable suiting manufactured. We shall always keep in stock the latest nvelties in the fancy dress goods. Also at all times a complete stock of

BUTTONS, TRIMMINGS, HOSIERY, GLOVES, NECKWEAR, CORSETS, UNDERWEAR, ETC., ETC.

An inspection of our stock, and comparison of prices is solicited. Hoping to see you early and often during the coming year, we are

Very respectfully,

Kenny, Adams & Co.,

207 Woodward Ave.,

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CRACKED HOOFS, SPRAINS, SCRATCHES and SORES

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Ask your Store-keeper for , or write direct to the Manufacturers.

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It is not a cure all, but is for diseases of a MALARIAL and BILIOUS NATURE. IT CURES

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It is giving GENERAL SATISFACTION and those who use it are all in it in a GOOD THING, and RECOMMEND IT TO THEIR FRIENDS.

IT COSTS ONLY Twenty-Five Cents. Full directions in both English and German with each bottle.

REMEMBER we have the exclusive control, and HERBINE cannot be had in any other store.

If you have the AGUE, or are BILIOUS and your LIVER is out of order, CALL AND GET A BOTTLE.

Respectfully,

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(21, 1yr.) Birmingham, Mich.

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For 36 page catalogue, free, address, H. C. TUNISON, Cincinnati, O., N. Y. City, Jacksonville, Ill., Omaha, Neb.

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are not compelled to give goods away but are glad to say that notwithstanding the general cry of dull times, their trade booms right along and for the coming year we offer GREATER STOCK, BEST QUALITY and LOWER PRICES than ever before. In

GROCERIES, GROCERIES,

we are selling Standard Granulated Sugar 8¾ cts per pound, Confectioners A 8 cts, 3½ lbs Crackers 25 cts, 3600 Matches for 25 cts, and everything in the same proportion. We sell a 60 cent Tea (sun cured) for 50 cts and the best Tea Dust (just opened the 14th chest yesterday) for only 25 cents per lb. Everybody goes into ecstacy over its fine flavor, its strength and color.

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Our stock is always full of the best and purest. Our prescription department is under the supervision of Geo. H. Mitchell, who with over ten years experience in handling medicines, feels qualified in saying "Bring along your prescriptions, family recipes, horse powders and liniment recipes, and have them put up at the lowest possible price." We have all the patent medicines you see advertised. If not on hand we will get them for you at once.

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Our trade in this department exceeds our fondest expectations, Bedroom Suits $18 and up, dinning chairs $2.50 per set and up, extension tables 65 cts per foot, lounges $6 and up, mattresses, bed springs, easy chairs, patent rockers willow rockers, etc. Our rooms are full and invite your inspection.

Sundries! Sundries!! Sundries!!!

Hair oils, perfumes, face powders, tooth brushes, hair brushes, cut glass bottles, box papers, toilet cases, plush hand glasses, autograph albums, pocket books, Hand bags, stationary, brooms and Oh! goodness come and see us and see for yourself.

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STANDARD LAUNDRY WAX

Preserves Linen, gives a beautiful finish, prevents the iron from sticking, saves labor.

5 Cents a Cake.

Ask your Store-keeper for it.

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Standard Laundry Wax is the best made for laundry use. It makes the iron run easily over the linen without sticking, and gives a beautiful finish, at a great saving of labor.

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Filling and preserving the natural teeth a specialty.

Lang's Vitalized Air Process used for the painless extraction of teeth. Those who are suffering with toothache and those wishing to have their teeth extracted for plates, don't hesitate any longer with the dread of having them extracted, for now it can do it without pain or harm.

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At the old stand formerly occupied by E. E. Holmes, in the village of Franklin, at a

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This stock is new and was purchased at a forced sale and at a low figure and a great sacrifice, which gives us the power to MAKE PRICES not to meet them. All persons intending to purchase any of the above line of goods either for present or future use, would do well to attend this great

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Together with all Trimmings. I will attend to every part of the business in a satisfactory manner. All orders for Funerals will be attended to promptly, and the friends of the dead will be relieved of all care in the arrangements for burial. A good stock of coffins, etc. always on hand.

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First-class Single and Double Rigs.

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John Pound.