

**The Political Game in Morocco.**  
The sultan of Morocco, in northwestern Africa, has a larger area than France or Germany, but its affairs attracted little attention in America until it was announced, about two years ago, that his elder brother, Mulai-Hafid, was attempting to depose Mulai-Abd-el-Aziz, who acceded in 1894. Students settled themselves to watch an interesting contest between the sultan and his would-be successor; but it speedily degenerated into a squabble, and nothing important developed until, recently, it appeared that the pretender had become a pawn in the game of international finance. Very early in the game Mulai-Hafid captured Fez, the northern capital. Mulai-Abd-el-Aziz retained control of the southern capital, Morocco. Each spat defiance at the other, but neither could crush the other, for want of men and arms. It was a deadlock which there might be profit in breaking; and the son of a former member of the British parliament organized a syndicate of capitalists, made his way in disguise to Fez—he was the first European to enter the city in a year—and put himself in touch with Mulai-Hafid. The syndicate pledged itself to place that gentleman on the throne, asking, in return, concessions for the building of railways and opening of mines, the reorganization of the finances, various important political posts, and a partial control of the customs. Mulai-Hafid seems to have hesitated, for German, Portuguese and American financiers now flocked into the field, all anxious to promote his cause for a consideration. But although these others wanted less, they likewise promised less—an American corporation, for instance, offered a paltry million dollars for the right to build a railway through a rich mining country, mineral rights to be "thrown in,"—and at last accounts the pretender had accepted the British proposition, and six Englishmen were busy at Fez, organizing victory. Such is, in brief, the story told by the adventurous Englishman and by journalists who have no particular bias. Revolutions nearer home are seldom financed "for love" or "for fun," and there is reason to believe that certain South American rulers who showed conspicuous kindness to foreign "interests" were only paying for the help that made them rulers. No doubt, remarks the *Youths' Companion*, the Englishmen will earn all they get.

**Great Names in Washington.**  
Farragut and Thomas, two southerners who won fame by their adherence to the cause of the union, one a Tennessean and the other a Virginian, are kept in remembrance in the national capital by a square and a circle respectively, which stand at the centers of the most desirable residential districts. Few historical characters have been equally fortunate in this respect. Farragut square is surrounded by substantial edifices, including several of the best apartment houses in the city, besides a number of the private residences such as those of the vice-president and of Gen. Dyer. Cities the world over perpetuate the historical epochs in which they grew. This civil war has given to the national capital, since its period of expansion came just after that struggle, the great names for the new city's focal points, remarks the *Boston Transcript*. And while the south has naturally had a smaller part in them than the northerners, it may derive a little solace indirectly, perhaps, from thinking of the importance of its contributions, in military genius, as well as in border-state soldiers, to the cause of the union, which is there perpetuated.

How many Americans enunciate distinctly the name of the town in which they live—or of any other town? The heroine of a recent linguistic accident had the excuse, at least, of being strange to the English language. She was German, and lived in Pittsburg, Pa. She wished to go to Newark, N. J., and she was taken there. She returned to Pittsburg and tried again. This time he got a ticket to Newark, N. J., and had to go back home again. With her money gone and no friends, she would have had a hard time but for the kindness of a German painter. When she finally reached Newark, she had spent \$60 in railway tickets, when but for indistinct enunciation she would have had to spend only seven dollars.

About 100,000,000 heads of lettuce are raised annually in the jardins maraicheres of Paris, the greater part of which is shipped to London and Cologne during the winter and spring, after being wrapped in paper and cased.

It is proposed by the superintendent of streets to have the Chicago thoroughfares sprinkled before they are swept, so that the dissemination of dust and microbes may be avoided. Another helpful boost for optimism.

When the windows broken by two suffragettes at the prime minister's official residence, 10 Downing street, London, were replaced, it was then found that the glass of the broken windows had never been disturbed since the house was built and was of the old "crown" style.

Is this a time when it is wise for a clergyman to declare that persons who come to church to rest themselves on Sunday morning are "church loafers" and "baptized pagans?"

# WOOLING IN FOREIGN LANDS BY BEAU BRUMMEL



ARABIAN BRIDE'S BETHROTHAL COSTUME

**T**HE 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 wooed 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 consulted, 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 it over 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 of marriage is readily settled. The settlement 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, falls 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 services is divided into three parts. The first is where the gold rings are exchanged. Then 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-

## RAILWAYS BUILT FOR WAR.

Russia has at length completed the great steel and concrete bridge across the Oxus at Karki, on which it has been busy ever since the autumn of 1907. This bridge is the last and principal link in the new strategic railway which is being built between the great city of Samarkand, in Russian Turkestan, and the little village of Bosoga, on the Afghan frontier, and as soon as the rails are laid, which will be in a few months' time, the czar

will be able, should he so wish, to mass easily a million of men upon the borders of this debatable territory. Another of these strategic railways has also been recently completed from the Caspian to Pendjeh, by way of Merv. This means that Herat, the traditional "key of India," is now within easy striking distance of St. Petersburg. These great trunk lines have been constructed recently. They have never been opened for traffic, except local on

certain sections. They are, in fact, railways built for war. The sterile regions through which they run can, for the most part, never support any permanent population. They stop short on the frontier of Afghanistan, amid a jumble of mountains and morasses and uninhabited salt deserts.

**Savage Sense of Humor.**  
Lecturing on New Guinea, A. H. Dunning said he once offered a native some smelling salts. After going through extraordinary contortions the

native went away, returning soon with another native whom he compelled to make acquaintance with the salts. The two brought a third, and so on until the whole village had been victimized. The savages watched each new sufferer with the keenest delight and took good care not to let him know what fate awaited him.

**Satisfactory Piece.**  
We will never have universal peace until each nation is satisfied with the piece it has.—Judge.

usual for a Japanese bride to commit suicide because she is not permitted to have the young man she would like to marry. The parents settle this affair often without consulting the young man and the girl. The man usually is given more leeway, and if he does not admire the girl the parents usually hunt another girl for him. The girl once selected, it is his duty to send her as many and as costly gifts as his fortune will allow.

The Swiss bride, especially in the upper classes, never accepts anything beyond jewelry. Her parents are expected to buy her trousseau, furniture for the house, and her spinning wheel. The day of the wedding these things are exhibited, but at the bridegroom's house.

Though in Switzerland no matchmaking is done, a young man must often prove to the girl he is worthy of asking for her hand. The girls always have the privilege of saying "Yes" or "No," though in some places the choice of a bridegroom is restricted to their own locality. In some districts a man must lead the goats up and down the mountain to show the girl he can work for her. In other towns where the haying is done it is his part to stack up all the hay and pile it into the barn. Though she helps him in his long hours of toil, he is expected to do most of the work. Still he talks on bravely, feeling that he is being rewarded sufficiently by a pleasant word, a friendly smile, and that if the work is well done he has a chance to win her as his wife.

Until recently in Egypt girls and boys were married when they were young. It was common for a girl to be married by the time she was 14 and a boy when 16. But they now wait a few years longer. The parents always select the man they wish for the son-in-law. The girl is satisfied to know that she is going to have new dresses and a great deal of new pretty jewelry. The bride and bridegroom rarely see each other before the day of the wedding. An important part of the ceremony is to give a bride food and a large urn, which symbolize that she will have food and water.

There are no people so particular about selecting husbands and wives for their children as the Moors. Their sons and daughters have no right to say who they will and will not marry. For after the parents have chosen, a word of complaint might result in death. A son dare never take a wife unless his mother approves, and she is usually chosen from the young women of their own clan. But when they cannot find a girl in the village who pleases them they seek one among other clans. But the young man is supposed to be too timid to court alone the girl whom his mother chooses, and so he usually takes several friends with him. It is their duty to sing the girl's praises in the hope of giving him courage to carry on the courtship.

But the formal engagement must take place in the presence of the head man. It is before him that the young man hands over the sum he has agreed to give the girl's father. This varies according to what he can afford, the beauty of the bride, and their social position. The bride usually buys the trousseau with the money the young man gives her father.

Moorish girls are exceedingly fond of pretty clothings and plenty of handsome jewelry, so their trousseaux are often wonderfully elaborate. On her wedding day a professional woman from the town is employed to dress the bride. She paints her face, combs out her hair, and arranges the jewels. Not much before sunset does the bridegroom send the box in which the bride is to be con-



EGYPTIAN WATER CARRIER WAITING FOR HER LOVER



GEORGIAN BRIDE WHO CANNOT AFFORD TO LIVE

ducted on a mule to his house. Before she goes to his house she drives all about town. In some parts when the bride enters her new home the bridegroom walks backwards holding a dagger in his hand and she follows him, touching the point of the blade with the tip of her finger.

Where a family can afford it a girl usually is accompanied by an old nurse, who gives her good words of counsel as the lazy maids trundle along leisurely. Before she leaves the girl, whom she has cared for since the bride was a child, she whispers: "Take courage; you need not fear. He cannot help but love you; you are sweet, good, and kind."

Among primitive peoples marriage usually is more insistent and girls are courted in even a less romantic manner. Among the Australians every girl must marry, whether she will or not. It is considered wonderfully strange if a girl is 12 years old and is still unmarried. This is not because the girls or parents are romantic, but the parents feel that a girl is only worth the toil she gives.

"The man," says the Rev. H. C. Meyer, "regards them more as slaves than in any other light. They are a necessary commodity, valuable only as long as useful, to be thrown aside after they serve their purpose."

Worse still, their masters can throw them out and divorce them at will. The Kafirs buy their wives with cows and do not pay more than they can help. A woman no sooner enters her new home than she is given some task to perform so her lord can see if he has made a good bargain. He values her less than his cows. This is seen by the fact that he permits her to do all the work except tend to his cattle and enter the kraal where they are kept.

**BLACK FOX FARMS.**  
Consul John H. Sherley writes from Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island: "There are three black fox farms near Atherton where these animals are raised for their skins. These farms contain 20, 25 and 30 foxes, respectively. The skins are sold in London at prices ranging from \$500 to \$1,800 each, according to quality. I am informed that the fur is used for ornamenting the cloaks of royalty, as it is the only fur to which gold will cling. The farm containing 30 foxes is on Cherry's island. The farm containing 20 foxes is in a rough, broken woods country, where the animals are confined by heavy woven-wire netting. The wire is set in the ground two and three feet, in order to keep the foxes from burrowing under, and is about eight feet high above ground, with a curve inwardly at the top of each post of another three or four feet of wire, in order to keep them from climbing over the fence. They sleep in the open year round, in hollow trees and in hollow logs. These animals are not cross-bred, but are confined to their own kind, to keep the fur of the best quality possible.

## VISITS WITH UNCLE BY



For instance.

One way to find hens' nests is to keep hens!

A married man can always raise the dust—with a carpet beater.

According to Harlan Babcock, "God bless our home," is a sign in a Kalamazoo barber shop.

When you have a lawsuit to lose, hire a cheap lawyer. When you have one to win, get the best one—and hold the sack.

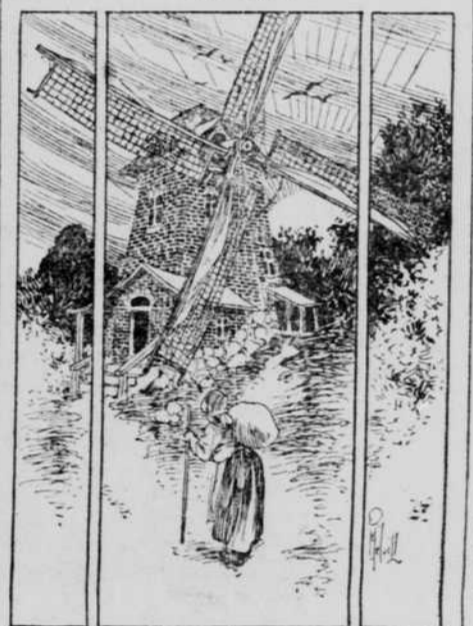
There is so blamed much preaching in this world that nobody seems to have any time for practicing what is preached.

Most men get their religion by the transmission method. The Bible is the battery, the preacher the live wire and the wife, the transmitter.

When some people's corns hurt, they carry an umbrella. When other folks' corns go on a rampage, they cut 'em—and of the two classes I think the latter is more sensible.

A Pennsylvania eagle stole a miner's watch and escaped to the uttermost crest of the distant crags with it. The first editor to spring that old gag about time flying will get six months in the county jail.

I suggested that pale porous plasters were now au fait under peekaboo waists. A country editor purloined the joke, changed the color of the porous plaster to pink, and got copied all over the country. It is evident that my joke was a little off color.



**The Grist.**

Oh, what of the grist that you take away  
From the grinding wheels of the mill to-day?  
And what of the mouths that your grain should feed  
In the hungry hours, in the hours of need?  
Oh, what of the grist, I say?

Ah, how did you harrow your clouded field,  
On the sunny slope, for the harvest yield?  
And what did you sow in the fragrant spring  
When the air was filled with the planter's ring?  
Oh, what of the weeds concealed?

Oh, what of the hopes that are dead to-day  
As you stagger on by the stubbled way?  
And what has the hopper turned out, I pray?  
For the sunset days when the hair is gray?  
Oh, what is the grist that you come to claim—  
An improved crop or an honored name?  
To blast or to buoy, anyway?

**Hoodooed.**

A country editor complains because a hoodoo with yellow eyes, a polka-dot breast and a grapevine tail is after him. The hoodoo slipped an imaginary brick into the cog wheels of the press and broke the bed action, the hoodoo wagged its tail around the foreman's tripping feet and he pried a newspaper form, the hoodoo blew its terrible breath into the concentric of the gasoline engine and gave it the whooping cough. The hoodoo even went further—melted the rollers, poisoned the pet type lice, soused the office cat in the office fry kettle, tore four sheets out of the subscription book, broke the office toilet into six pieces and put a typographical error in the name of the paid-in-advance subscriber.

The editor fumigated with formaldehyde, rubbed his rabbit's foot fetich on the tip of his nose, recrossed his suspenders and read a chapter in the family Bible. Instead of "fading" the hoodoo, it exhilarated it. Next the old Prouty fell in a heap, the wopper-jaw collapsed into the tumbling pot, the gimcrack jumped the track of the rollerinkum—and the junk man called to remark that the price of old iron had fallen materially during the week.

Then the editor went out and signed the pledge, and the paper came out as usual next day. You can't keep a good editor down!

**Burdened with Wealth.**  
"Did you try counting sheep for your insomnia?"  
"Yes, doc, but I made a mess of it. I counted 10,000 sheep, put 'em on cars and shipped 'em to market. The wad of money I got for 'em made me afraid to go to sleep."—Kansas City Journal.

**Transient Hotel Yorkers.**  
The transient hotel population of New York is figured at 250,000 people a day. The hotel properties are valued at over \$80,000,000.

## WAIFS OF WISDOM.

They only really live who love.  
Fools have brains, but don't know how to use them.  
Because of her "contempt of court" many a woman is punished with the sentence of spinsterhood.  
It is useless for a woman to "throw cold water" on an earnest lover, for nothing can put out the divine fire of genuine love.  
No man can build for himself a temple of fame, without first laying sure foundations of integrity.

**DYSPEPTIC PHILOSOPHY.**  
It may be better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all, but it isn't so cheap.  
If a woman is pleased with herself the opinion of the rest of the world is of secondary importance.  
It takes a man half his life to find out who his friends are, and the other half to locate his enemies.  
A woman's hidden intentions are generally so well hidden that she can seldom remember herself where they are.

**Creamed Cucumbers.**  
Peel two or three large cucumbers and cut very fine with a sharp knife or run through the coarsest knives of the meat chopper. Drain off the liquid, but do not press.  
Rub a bowl with a clove of garlic put in the minced cucumbers and season with cayenne pepper, black pepper salt, a teaspoonful of onion juice and the strained juice of half a small lemon.  
Chill all the ingredients thoroughly and just before serving stir in half a cupful of thickly whipped cream.  
This makes a nice sauce for serving with fish or is equally good put on the half shells. Serve one with each person and pass with soft shell crabs or broiled lobster at a luncheon.

**MUSINGS.**  
Many a board of directors wouldn't pass as clear timber.  
Love songs are all antematrimonial affairs. Ain't it queer?  
Honesty is the best policy, but many a crook has a big funeral.  
Laundry work at home would be much more satisfactory if the right Starch were used. In order to get the desired stiffness, it is usually necessary to use so much starch that the beauty and fineness of the fabric is hidden behind a paste of varying thickness, which not only destroys the appearance, but also affects the wearing quality of the goods. This trouble can be entirely overcome by using Defiance Starch, as it can be applied much more thinly because of its greater strength than other makes.

**WE GET WHAT WE GIVE.**  
Life is a magician's vase, full to the brim, and so made that you cannot thrust your hand into it, or pour, or sip, or draw out of it.  
It overflows into your hand only when you drop something into it.  
And what you get is of the same quality as that which you give.

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Candor is the cold-water spigot of truth.  
The preacher says religion is a great thing in time of trouble. He don't state where he spends his vacations.

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