

SIX BACHELOR MAIDS.

Or, the Downfall of the Triple Alliance.

"January 1, 1896—Perfectly lovely time to-day. No young men callers were allowed at the Advanced Young Woman's business college, and it seemed so nice not to be compelled to smirk and smile and listen to a lot of silly compliments and speeches. I never fully realized before what a bore the men are!

"I am president of the club—won't it look grand when it comes to be printed on the club stationery?—Phyllis Potter, president of the Bachelor Maids' Triple Alliance!"

"I immediately sat down and wrote a note to every friend I could think of—using the club paper, of course—just to impress them with my new title."

"The club stationery also came today, and I couldn't help feeling a glow of bachelor maidenly pride as I saw the words 'Phyllis Potter, president,' in the daintiest of script under the name of the club at the top of the letterheads and on the envelopes."

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(take too long) bring disgrace on the club by getting married.

"No, it will be safer to stick to the original membership—the six strong-willed, vigorous minded founders of the 'B. M. T. A.' We are reasonably sure that they at least will be faithful."

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nasium suit, and can't get along without a man! It is strange how weak and dependent we women are getting all of a sudden!

"Wrote 'Mrs. Maxwell'—that's her name now—the usual scorching letter, and also sent a note to Lottie Burton, informing her upon the subject of the proposed re-organizing the principles and the banner of the 'B. M. T. A.' and reminding her that eternal vigilance was the price of single-blessedness."

"Lottie is a decidedly independent and level-headed young woman, and I feel that she at least will not betray the cause."

"Feb 15—Of all glad words of tongue or pen, the gladdest are these: 'We must have men!'"

"This is what I found in my mail this morning, and the name signed to it was Lottie Burton Englehart! She, too, has gone the way of all the others, it seems and I am left with half a dozen 'B. M. T.'s upon my hands. Only thirteen months since the 'Bachelor Maids' Triple Alliance' was organized, and today the president alone is left to carry on the good work, and somehow I feel that from now on I am going to have a rather lonesome time of it!"

"The postman just came with a batch of letters and among them was a valentine from Harold Draper. We used to be very good friends a year or so ago, but we had a love spat, and I sent him adrift and thought that ended it. But I see Harold hasn't forgotten me, poor fellow! I suppose he has suffered enough, and I really ought to take pity on him!"

"There is no disgrace in giving up the ship when the crew have all deserted it; and even if there were, I've got as good an excuse as the others to wit: 'Twas love that made me do it!'"

"But I'm glad I was the president of the 'Bachelor Maids' Triple Alliance, for I can back my club pin, nor do any explaining or apologizing, except to myself. I'd hate awfully to attempt to palm off that same old excuse on the ex-members of the 'B. M. T. A.' after the mean letters I wrote them."

NO BEARINGS TO GET. If Any Man Ever Reaches the North. If any one really got to the pole, says the Nautical Magazine, he would, in common parlance, be utterly "at sea," simply because at the pole there is no possibility of ascertaining one's whereabouts. A person arriving at the pole and being asked to give the bearing would be like a blind man he would grope about and vainly endeavor to get back where he came. This by no means envious situation is calculated to destroy the illusions which he may have cherished when starting on his polar expedition. His course, as determined by the compass, will be accounted for by the fact that when stationed at the pole the direction of the north would be found to coincide with the line of the zenith—that is to say, the point exactly above us. The opposite point, viz., the nadir, would coincide with the direction to the south. The longitudinal circles, and hence also the meridian of the locality, would coincide with the horizon. Hence an astronomical determination of the locality, according to latitude and longitude, is precluded.

The same may be said as regards determining one's bearings in any direction. The compass, too, will fall there, because its horizontal intensity is so slight as to preclude the possibility of its action. The only criterion for judging that one has arrived at the pole is the observation of latitude of the sun, after having been corrected to altitude above the true horizon, is found to coincide with the value of the declination of the sun for the day in question.

Moreover, in those regions there is scarcely a day on which dense fogs do not prevail, and so no more degrees of latitude can be ascertained. As a result, the difficulties of observation to such an extent that it can only be a question of approximate estimates. Such conditions are by no means envious, and are scarcely calculated to induce us to long for them with all our heart.

But these are not the only things which are likely to make a sojourn at the pole a never-ending torment. Worse than all the rest, one cannot count the passing hours there; in other words, there is no criterion for determining the time of day. During the course of six months the sun will neither rise nor set, but during the whole of the time will either remain above or below the horizon. As the earth revolves around its axis in twenty-four hours, the sun apparently describes, during the same interval, a circuit of 360 degrees in the sky, being visible at an altitude equal to the declination whenever declination is of the same name as the pole at which the observer is stationed.

The numerous attempts hitherto made to reach the pole agree, as a matter of course, with the fact that it is to be reached by sledges. The idea that one might get there by an aerial passage has not gained ground until recently, but if we consider that balloons are not navigable, and hence are liable to be carried away by air currents in any direction, the idea is not very practical, and in the most unlikely event only to the pole, no one possessed of but a moderate allowance of common sense will comprehend how success could have been expected from such an enterprise. Moreover, determinations of locality cannot possibly be made from a balloon with any approximate degree of accuracy.

THE MAN IN THE TRUNK. A New Way of Getting the Burglar into the House. Two well dressed men from Paris drove up to the best hotel in a country town in the Department of the Eure, relates a Paris correspondent, and engaged a double bedded room. They deposited a very heavy trunk in a corner, and then went out to see the town, telling the landlady, a widow, that they would return at night. By night came and the two men did not come back at the time specified. The landlady waited, much surprised, and kept her establishment open after the usual hour for closing. This was soon observed by the local gendarmes on duty, who entered the hotel and reminded the proprietress of the place that the curfew, or its modern equivalent, had been tolled the knell of parting day, and that it was full time to extinguish lights in all inns and cafes. The widow said she was waiting for two men who had left a big trunk behind them. This caused the gendarmes to reflect a little. One of them well versed in criminal annals suddenly remembered the Golube case. He also thought of the young stamp collector who was murdered in Paris a few years since, and whose body was thrust into a trunk. Anxious to secure all the credit of a discovery which might lead to promotion and glory, the gendarme learned in criminal annals asked the widow to let him see the trunk, and told his companion to wait for him at the bar or buvette of the hotel. The landlady accordingly led the man to the room, and he began to gauge the weight of the big trunk, when he saw his name written up, and out jumped a wiry little man who brandished a big revolver in his right hand. The widow screamed, and the gendarme was temporarily thrown off his guard, but he soon pulled himself together and grappled with the person who had been acting jack-in-the-box. The other gendarme, hearing the landlady's shrieks and the scuffling overhead, was soon on the scene of action and helped his colleague to manacle the mysterious person who had jumped out of the trunk and to take him to the lockup. There the fellow refused to give his name, or to say anything about his companions, who are supposed to have returned to Paris, leaving him to plunder the inn when its owner and her servants were asleep.

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USE FOR STORE ROOM RELICS

Ancient Melodions Converted Into Modern Tea Tables. REJOICE YE THAT POSSESS ONE

Plans and Specifications for Utilizing the Discarded Musical Instruments of Thirty or More Years Ago.

In many homes there rest in obscure corners, "piano-sons" rosewood-venered melodions, made about thirty years ago. The piano or organ has usurped their honored sphere, and they are retained, like old pensioners, because of the good they have done in the shape of memories that cling to them. Rejoice if you possess such a piece, and at once restore it to a central place in the home, not as a melodeon, but as a tea table.

Remove the entire contents—keys, keyboard, rods, bells, etc. The wood is the only thing you will need in the reconstruction. Remove the lyre. If you object to the small hinges on top of the table, remove them. Have the two parts planed carefully and put together, gluing or screwing small pieces of wood on the under side. The hinges are left on in the illustrated piece. The dollies cover them, and they are not in the way. By all means leave the ivory knobs alone. The fall-board (figure 1) is used for the drawer front. The well-killed boards that support the bellows may be utilized for the remainder of the reconstruction. Leave the lock in it. The drawer may be one large compartment, or subdivided into several.

The illustration shows two divisions, one large for lines, one small for teas. The brass handles were purchased at a brassery for 50 cents each. Now make the keyboard, reverse it and place it on the back of the instrument about two and one-half inches from the edge. (Figure 2.) Some instruments have above the keys a fretwork backed by colored cloth. Remove the cloth and place this above the keyboard. (Figure 3.) Take the music rack, observe the pattern closely and decide how much is suitable to place on top of the back for a final finish. A carpenter will saw it as you desire. A little of the lower part of the rack was used on this table. (Figure 4.) Below the keys on every instrument is a long strip of rosewood, about three inches wide. Fasten this at the back of the inverted keyboard as a support for the saucers. (Figure 5.) Remove the pins from the rosewood sockets in which the rack has played, glue these at the ends of the large opening about one and a half inches in front of the saucer support. Get a small brass rod, have it cut a trifle shorter than the space and slip it into the sockets. This prevents the saucers from sliding forward. Screw twelve brass hooks into the top board at equal distances. If the lyre is of wood, divide it so that each half will serve as a support and finish to the back. (Figure 6.) If it is of iron, divide the remainder of the music rack and use instead.

In regard to the finish of the table, if the instrument to be repaired is of mahogany, before this is done (a very expensive proceeding) wash with a soft sponge, in lukewarm water, the entire instrument, and polish with equal parts of olive oil and turpentine. This may brighten it sufficiently. Casters are unnecessary. The table is very light to move and is as light as a feather. The tea chair should not be low. A handsome piano stool is not amiss. The expense of making over the melodeon cannot be accurately given, as carpenters' prices vary in different localities. With the exception of the drawers, the work may be done by a strong arm directed by judgment. There are some variations in these old pieces, and the owner must depend upon herself to develop the latent possibilities of her own possession.

SILENT PALACE OF THE DEAD. Mackay's Beautiful Mausoleum in a New York Cemetery. The John W. Mackay mausoleum, which crowns Ocean Hill, Greenwood cemetery, was finished last week, reports the New York Herald. The architect and constructor delivered the keys thereof to Mr. Mackay, thereby completing nearly three years devoted exclusively to the edifice. The structure is in form a Greek cruciform, treated in the renaissance school of architecture of the fifteenth century. The exterior is of white Maine granite, surmounted with a massive cross of Calvary and adorned with four groups of statuary being by the artist, symbolizing Religion, Science, Art and Industry. The interior is a simple, dignified and imposing structure. The architect is George B. Post, of New York City. The contractor is John J. McLaughlin, of New York City.

Annual Sales over 6,000,000 Boxes. BEECHAM'S PILLS FOR BILIOUS AND NERVOUS DISORDERS such as Wind and Pain in the Stomach, Giddiness, Fullness after meals, Headache, Dizziness, Drowsiness, Flushing of the Face, Loss of Appetite, Constipation, Blisters on the Skin, Cold Chills, Disturbed Sleep, Frightful Dreams and all other ailments arising from Biliousness. THE FIRST DOSE WILL GIVE RELIEF IN TWENTY MINUTES. Every sufferer will acknowledge them to be

A WONDERFUL MEDICINE. BEECHAM'S PILLS, taken as directed, will quickly restore Females to complete health. They promptly remove obstructions or irregularities of the system and cure Sick Headache. For a Weak Stomach Impaired Digestion Disordered Liver IN MEN, WOMEN OR CHILDREN Beecham's Pills are Without a Rival

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Hope and Peace. These groups were modeled and cast in Europe. The entrance doors are of statuary bronze, leading to the vestibule, at the opening of which are two massive and richly wrought and chased bronze grilles work gates, executed by John Williams.

The vestibule opens into an exquisitely decorated and appointed chapel, the principal feature in which is an altar composed of rare marbles and onyx, with a reposed in which is inset a Madonna and Child in white marble. This work of art is several centuries old and was procured in Italy by Mrs. Mackay. The interior plan of construction of the chapel is based upon the eight pointed cross of Malta, which symbolizes the eight beatitudes. This symbolism has been carried by inserting in the chapel walls eight stained glass windows, portraying the beatitudes. These works of art were made in Munich by the most eminent artists in Europe. In color, beauty of drawing and artistic treatment they are examples of the highest obtainable treatment of art glass.

The ceiling is a dome with Venetian glass mosaics of several shades of gold, ending in the apex of the dome in a cardinal cross entwined with palm branches. Concealed in the marble moulding surrounding the base of the dome are sixty incandescent electric lamps, which, when connected with the current, produce exquisite effects of light and shade upon the gold, green and cardinal shades of the wide expanse of mosaics, sparkling like jewels.

Beneath the altar is a crypt designed for two bodies, and in the north and south wings are crypts for twenty bodies. The crypts are of Tennessee marble, closed with a tablet of the same material, fitted with bronze screw sockets, into which detachable handles may be inserted for removing the tablets when interments are made.

Galveston Cables Working. NEW YORK, May 10.—The Central and South American Telegraph company announces that cable communication with Buenos Ayres and Uruguay by way of Galveston is not interrupted. All the Galveston lines are working as usual.

Mans of Cuba at The Bee office—Omaha—Council Bluffs or South Omaha. Cut a coupon from page 2. Address Cuban map depot.

A "PROUD" SPANIARD. A Former Captain General of Cuba Not Over Respectful.

As the question of Spanish good faith is prominent in the press these days, relates the Argonaut, this pertinent anecdote of the civil war will be timely. It is told in Bullock's "Secret Services of the Confederate States." Captain Bullock tells of the exciting incidents concerning the freeing of the rebel man Stonewall from the international complications attendant on its release from the French shipyard where it was built; how it was watched by the agents of the federal government; how it was followed to Denmark, whether it went under the Danish flag; how it was again followed to Ferrol, Spain, by the United States ships Niagara and Sacramento; how it eluded them there and sailed for the coast of the United States with the evident intent of attacking the federal ships, for any one of which it was more than a match, being then the most formidable ironclad afloat.

But when the Stonewall, under command of Captain Page, reached Havana in May, 1865, Page learned of the surrender of General Lee and soon after of the capture of Jefferson Davis. Page's funds were exhausted. The confederacy had collapsed. The position was perplexing. Captain Page opened negotiations with the Spanish au-

thorities at Havana for the surrender of the ship if they would advance the money to pay off the crew. Captain Page sent Lieutenant Carter to the captain general to make the arrangements. Carter reported that after five minutes' conversation the captain general asked him what sum was required. Carter replied, "\$15,000." The captain general said, "You had better make it \$100,000." Carter replied that his orders were to ask \$15,000. The captain general then turned to an official and bade him write a document and then, turning again to Carter, said: "Shall we not make it \$50,000?" But Carter obeyed orders and accepted only \$15,000.

It is quite evident that this high official, the captain general of Cuba, was attempting to get \$100,000 to pay off his crew, when he needed only \$15,000, the difference to be divided between them. When the confederate officer obstinately refused to accept either \$100,000 or \$50,000, but only the exact sum needed, it is evident that the captain general concluded that, the American was a fool and charged up \$100,000 to the Spanish government and put \$84,000 in his pocket. This throws a strong light on Spanish financial honor.

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WE FORMED A CLUB.

M. T. A.' engraved on it. Each girl is to wear the pin constantly as a reminder of the vow she has taken, and she is to explain fully just what the letters mean to any one who is curious enough to ask.



I SUPPOSE HE HAS SUFFERED ENOUGH AND I REALLY OUGHT TO TAKE PITY ON HIM. I mean are all proud of our pins, and commenced wearing them at once. Some of the other girls since seeing the pins are sorry they didn't join the club, too, but we have decided to take in no more members for fear we might get some weak-minded ones who might be led to join for the sake of wearing one of the pins, and then as soon as the novelty wore off they wouldn't wait for the enamel, that they