

ON THE BRIDAL DAY

HERE ARE SOME GERMAN THEORIES ABOUT BAD LUCK.

Trying on the Wedding Ring Before the Ceremony, Tearing the Wedding Dress, and Many Other Things Bring Dire Misfortune.

Germany seems to be especially prone to bridal superstitions. A German writer has just offered these comments on the bridal day, by which it may be seen that bad luck rather than good luck has the point of emphasis.

According to the Germans the bride must be especially careful on her wedding day not to put the left foot out of bed first—for that would mean perpetual strife.

It is most necessary to see that thirteen persons do not sit down to breakfast together that day. Many misfortunes will befall that bride who tries the wedding ring on the proper finger before the wedding; this is considered an anticipation of fate, and fate is not to be so caught. It is even possible that in such cases the wedding may fall at the last moment. In fact some brides think it a bad sign if the bridegroom even shows them the ring before the wedding.

When the bride puts on the wedding dress she must be very careful not to rip or tear it—not even a bit of lace, nor should she pick up anything on it—for this, too, is a bad sign. If, however, anything be torn it should not be sewn—for each stitch brings tears and misfortunes. In English society bits of court plaster are used for such emergencies.

The bride should admire her dress before the wedding day, for if it is completed and she look in the mirror on her wedding day each glance means misfortune.

It is an awful sign for the bride to look back over her shoulder, for this is a sign that she looks back to the past with a heavy heart, and does not look to the future with joy. If she should see herself in the mirror when thus looking back, all luck is gone from this wedding.

This refers of course, to an accidental look backward. If the bride is in her carriage and any one calls to her, she must on no condition look backward. Before her wedding no bride who hopes for good luck should weep—crying is permitted only after the ceremony. A mother who embraces her daughter and weeping, makes her weep, calls down misfortune upon her child.

Friends who send telegrams to a bride should so time them that they arrive only after the ceremony, for misfortune comes with premature congratulations. Hundreds of telegrams afterward can do no harm—but a single one too soon is bad luck.

Under no circumstances should the bridal bouquet be forgotten, for this is of evil omen. It is a bad sign too if the bridegroom is late. If the bride drops her bouquets its ill will to abandon the wedding if luck is considered.

It is remarkable how far bridal superstition goes. It extends even to the wedding presents. Some think it ill luck to receive any presents that cut, and yet many send fish knives, fruit and dinner knives. Few consider how many tears these well meant presents cause the bride, who especially at this time shrinks from the last portent of evil.

HOME COOKING.

Cheese Omelet.

Three eggs, 3 desertspoons of flour, 1 ounce of grated cheese, pepper, salt and 1-2 ounce of butter. Beat the eggs, flour and seasoning together until smooth; add the cheese, melt the butter pour in the omelet, stir until it begins to set, then fold it towards the handle of the pan and turn on to a hot dish; sprinkle the top with grated cheese.

Graham Bread.

One cup water, 1 cup milk, 1 cup molasses, 1 teaspoon soda, pinch of salt, 3 cups of graham flour. Place dish in water, set in oven, steam 3 hours, last half-hour remove your bread in dish to bottom of oven.

Orange Fritters.

Divide the oranges into quarters, removing all the pith carefully; dip each piece into sifted sugar, then into good frying batter and fry in deep fat until a golden color. Drain by the fire and serve on a dolly.

Mock Indian Pudding.

Two slices bread buttered put in dish, just cover with boiling water, soak a few minutes until soft; add 1 egg (beaten), 1 quart milk, 3-4 cup molasses and bake 1 hour. Easy to make; nice hot or cold, with or without cream.

Onion Rings.

Peel and slice, not too thin, several large Spanish onions. Dip each ring first into sweet milk and then into flour. Drop into a deep pan of boiling oil or butter and fry until nicely browned.

Cheese Pudding.

Cover bottom of pudding pan with piecrust dough rolled thin, scatter lumps of butter and cheese to make thin layer, season with salt and pepper, another layer of dough, cheese, butter, seasoning, then another; beat yolk of egg in cup of milk and pour over, bake thirty minutes. Delicious but rich.

The Knock-out Blow.

The blow which knocked out Corbett was a revelation to the prize fighters. From the earliest days of the ring the knock-out blow was aimed for the jaw, the temple or the jugular vein. Stomach punches were thrown in to worry and weary the fighter, but if a scientific man had told one of the old fighters that the most vulnerable spot was the region of the stomach, he'd have laughed at him for an ignoramus. Dr. Pierce is bringing home to the public a parallel fact; that the stomach is the most vulnerable organ out of the prize ring as well as in it. We protect our heads, throats, feet and lungs, but the stomach we are utterly indifferent to, until disease finds the solar plexus and knocks us out. Make your stomach sound and strong by the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and you protect yourself in your most vulnerable spot. "Golden Medical Discovery" cures "weak stomach," indigestion, or dyspepsia, torpid liver, bad, thin and impure blood and other diseases of the organs of digestion and nutrition.

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MANY FOOLISH LAWSUITS

Litigation Over a Watermelon, a Spotted Calf and a Toy Balloon.

Many men, level-headed enough about other things seem to lose their wits entirely when they get tangled up in a lawsuit. In a case recently concluded in the German courts a Berlin business man paid out over \$900 to recover the value of a 5-cent postage stamp. It seems as if this claimant had justice on his side, too; he had written a polite letter, asking for an address and enclosing postage for reply. Failing to get an answer, he sued for the stamp.

The famous Missouri watermelon case was just as trifling and even more disastrous. The seed was planted on one farm, but the vine crept through a crack in the rail fence and the melon grew on the other side. Both farmers claimed it and instead of seeing the joke they went to law. The farmers bankrupted themselves without deciding the question of ownership. The melon, worth about 10 cents in the first place, had disappeared long before.

The Iowa case which concerned the identity of a red and white heifer calf was equally disastrous. It is said that subpoenas were issued for more than 200 witnesses, who attended court after court, and received their fees and mileage. After they had spent all their money in litigation, the rival owners met one day and tossed a coin to settle the case.

One of the celebrated French cases was over a 2-cent toy balloon, and the litigants were Baron De Short and the Paris Metropolitan Railway. The balloon belonged to the Baron's little girl, and the railway employees on account of some rule they felt obliged to enforce would not permit it to be brought into the passenger car. The baron stormed and threatened but the guard was obdurate, and the toy was left behind, while the child wept. The next day the nobleman sued the company for the 2 cents.

Some of the smartest lawyers in Paris were engaged in the case. It was proved that it was likely to explode at any time, and the wise court held that even if its explosion could not possibly be attended by danger, it might create a panic among the passengers and the decision was against the baron. He spent hundreds of dollars trying to get even with the company, and the more he lost the less satisfaction he obtained.

The most expensive lawsuit in the world is said to have been that over the will of Antonio Traversa, a merchant who lived in Milan. He left a fortune of \$3,000,000, and there were a large number of heirs with conflicting interests. The case was in the different courts of Italy for years, and the 165 lawyers engaged in it ran up costs aggregating more than \$2,000,000. The estate lost in value too, during the contest, so that the winning heirs found themselves with a small sum to their share when the final decision was rendered.

Takes Place of Thousand Hands.
A machine which threads a thousand needles a minute is at work in a Swiss factory. The purpose of the machine is to thread needles that are placed afterward in a loom for making lace. The device is almost entirely automatic. It takes the needle, carries it along, threads it, ties the knot, cuts the thread off a uniform length, then carries the needle across an open space, and places it in a rack.

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