Our Young Folks the Freest and Happiest of the World's Youth-Wedlock in Germany - English Working People-Sordid Matches.

[Robert Laird Collier.]

However much is believed and published damaging to our reputation for social decency and high morality, I have a most fixed and unchanging conviction that we are the cleanest, sweetest, and holiest people socially on the face of the earth. It would be no more than the truth to say that this social purity is one of the results of our social customs. Our young | cople are the freest and happiest of the world's youth. Our boys and girls are thrown together more in school, in society, and public places than the youth of any other country, and the matter of sex is le s .ousidered in their amusements and re reations. Growing out of the free life of our young people is the immensely important fact that marriage in America, especially among the middle classes, has a holier basis and motive than is certainly the case

in any country of Europe.

The lowest classes of Germany marry very generally and with but little regard to the advantages and outcome of wedlock, but simply because it is t'e custo n and because it is convenient and desirable to have their own homes. The French are a thrifty people, and thrift is an e e ment entering into all the, do. They sel-dom leap into matrimony. Indeed, among all classes-even to some extent among the peasantry-marriage is a matter of arrangement The parents for the most part making the matches.

Society in England is one of castes and What applies to one caste or classes. class does not apply to the other castes or classes. For instance, the lower and artisan classes are the most improvident of all working people of which I know When in angland no aspect of its social life is so ever-present to me as the unfhriftiness of the working people. They marry and are given in marriage as though it were only a matter of a day's They have children born to them without the least regard to number or provision for t. cm. They stick religious y to the creed that ol makes the childre and that he will not send a mouth with-out food to fill it. The poerest couples seem to take pride in multiplying their offspring and in replenishing the earth. The average family of a working-man, I should say, would be about eight children. I speak from observation and not as giving statistics. These children are usually as well taken care of as the means of the parents will justify. They begin to work in their tender years and become bread winners and are out in the world on their own account, while yet the children of all American working people are in school. The great body of this class of English children are very independent, and early form their own assonations and rush into matrimonial engagements and alliances with but little concern as to the future or the fitness of

The middle classes of England do not quite go to the opposite extreme, but considerations enter into the matter of marriage that we in this country would, at least affect to, deem most unworthy and mischievous. Whatever else we may consider in forming matrimonial relations we always put forth but one supreme motive. We hold it to be the only true and enduring law of marriage that no other element should largely enter into the motive on either side. If we think otherwise than this we never give articulation to our thought.

But this does not hold true in England. Love may be taken for granted. Perhaps it usually is. But it is not a matter that is discussed either between the contracting arties themselves or their frinds. Much is said, and openly said, about the families and the relations, the capacities of the man for getting on in the world, and the amiable and housewifely qualities of the It may be a matter of love, and I should say that it is universally held that it ought to be a matter of love, but, all the same, marriage with the middle and upper classes of England is also a

Courtships in England are short and engagements are long. No sooner is it understood that a young man and a young woman are in love than it is given out that they are engaged. The American custom of leaving young mea and women free to associate together and to keep company with each other for an indefinite length of time without declaring their intentions, is almost unknown in any country of Europe. It is not long after a young man begins to show the daughter attentions before the father gives intimation that he wishes to know what it means, and either the youth declares his intentions or is notified to "cut sticks." Whatever the advanto "cut sticks." tages of the English view of this matter may have it has, at least, one most obvious disadvantage, and that is it leads to engagements upon too short an acquaintance, and it makes of the engagement the courting time rather than as a mere preparation for marriage. When once engaged the young people are thrown together in the freest fashion, and may be left to themselves at all times and in all places almost as though they were man and wife. In the general society of America marriage is deemed the vitally important event in this life, but in English society the engagement is looked upon as the most important, and really is a sort of first stage in matrimony, or the personal uniting of the lives only awaiting the legal cere-

Care of a Watch.

[Cor. Popular Science Monthly.] A good watch should be oiled once a year and cleaned once in three years. If a jeweler tells you that there is some very rious trouble or break in your watch which will cost several dollars to get repaired, ask him to take the watch "down" and let you see the trouble. It is better to wind one's watch in the morning than in the evening, since if you wind it at night and expose the watch to the cold, the chilling of the tightly wound main-spring may break it. Fre juently empty out the dust that accumula'es so quickly in your watch-pocket. It will not in jure the watch or clock to turn the hands

Guarding Against Avalanches.

There is nothing like forests for stopoing or breaking the force of an avaanche, and the slopes of the Italian sides of the Alps have been almost completely denuded of their timber. The Swiss owe their comparative immunity from the catastrophes which have wrought so much havoc among their neighbors to the care they bestow on the preservation of their mountain woods.

Under the influence of gulvanic action milk has been kept sweet three weeks in summer.

PHENOMENAL PHILATELY.

Qualities Requisite to Make s Valuable Stamp for Collectors-Examples.

[Charles L. Hildreth in Boston Transcript.] Rarity, either in the number of the parissue, some slight but infrequent ticular error of printing or design, or some pecu-liarity of "surcharging," or alteration, is the one quality requisite to make a "great" stamp. It may be, however, that some one specimen may derive a kind of value from having been attached to some celebrated instrument or autograph letter, though I have never seen such recorded. and indeed I believe such characteristics are not necessarily included in the aims of philately as a special study.

In a collection recently exhibited in New York under the direction of Mr. J. W. Scott, the following specimens were, among others, pointed out as gems, and serve to show what mysterious but palpable value may reside in a scrap of paper less than an inch square.

A Roumanian siamp of the year 1858 postal value twenty seven paras, colored back and rose. It is one of the few originals known to exist, and in the language of the catalogue "is a superb specimen and one of the unattainables."
A stamp of British Guiana, 1850, 1 cent.

The stamp is torn and cracked, but is none the less an article of inestimable

ape of Good Hope, 1860, 1 penny; wood block; blue and lightly cancelled. "This stamp," observes the catalogue. "is one of the great rarities, and not found except in the collections of the wealthy. The same, of the year 1879, 3 pence,

blue. This stamp owes its value to an error, the letter "b" being substituted for the correct "e," in the word "pence."

Modena, Italy, 1852. This stamp is regarded as very valuable, simply because a period appears above the line instead of The divergence of the punctuation mark and infinitesimal distance from

its place adds a round sum to its price. . Canca, 1879, a provisional stamp used in the city of Cali. The value of this stamp is due to what might be called an Irish bull, were it not Spanish. It appears that the postmaster of the having exhausted the supply place. of ordinary government stamps, de signed a new one himself, with the legend, No hay estampillas, i. e., "There are no stamps;" though it was, in fact, a genuine stamp, and used as such in pay-

ment of postage.

But that which would seem to be the chef d'œuvre of this collection, and a crown fewel in all collections, is the local, steamship Lady McLeod stamp, 2 pence, blue. Only one or two of this variety had been discovered when this stamp was purchased at a cost of \$100. Eurely he who originally a xed this 2 penny-worth of blue paper to his letter had no prevision that it would one day come to be a giant among stamps.

The Sleep of Death.

[Popular Science Monthly.]

The mode of death to which the animals are subject is that by anasthesia, not by suffocation or asphyxia. Physiologically there is a distinctive difference between these modes of death. Death by an as thesia is death by sleep; death by as-phyxia is death by deprivation of air. Death by an sthesia is typically repre-sented in death by chloroform; death by asphyxia is typically represented in drowning, or in immersion in carbonic When properly carried out, death by ansesthesia is by far the most certain and least violent of the two processes, although both are probably pain-It is worthy of record, however, that all animals are not equally suscep-tible to the action of the narcotic vapors. Cats, for instance, lie asleep much longer than dogs before they cease to breathe They fall into sleep as rapidly as dogs, but

do not pass so quickly into the final sleep. There is a difference between the different animals of the same kind. Some dogs die instantly-in fact as they fall asleep; others fall asleep and centinue to sleep for several minutes before they cease to live. In the first observations, before I had rendered the narcotic atmosphere overpoweringly active for all cases, there were a few instances, nine in the first 700, in which the animals slept on from half an hour until an hour after all their comrades had died. Finding out this strange peculiarity, I increased the amount of narcotic vapor until all suc-cumbed very nearly at the same minute, and in the last 6.000 there has been no re currence of the prolonged insensibility The animals are now commonly all asleep in from two to three minutes and have ceased to exist in a further period of the

Singular Names.

same duration.

[Chicago Tribune "Around Town."] "I've not been long over from Ausralia," remarked a gentleman recently but I have been here long enough to note that you have some deucedly sin gular names in America-Oshkosh, for instance, and Kalamazoo.

The idea was quite in point, for I re membered that another foreigner—a famous newspaper writer who was here but a fewweeks ago, and is now himself en route to Australia-had asked me

about those same names.
"What in the world," said Mr. Sala, "is there so singular about Oshkosh and Kalamazoo? Almost every Englishman who comes back home from America has some yarn to tell about Oshkosh or Kalama

I was not able to tell him, but a lady sitting on the same sofa gave us both some points. "I took a trip around the lakes the past summer," said she, "and down near the Straits of Mackinaw they have two lighthouses, one called Waugo shance, which the sailors pronounce Waggle slanks,' and the other Skilli Another place named Cabot's Head, after Sebastian Cabot or his son, is universally called 'Cabbagehead,' and a place named Rondeau the sailors always, spaak of as 'the Round O.'"

I related this to an Australian, and he said the only way he could get even with us was on Yankalilla. "That," said he. "is one of our native names, and has an advantage over yours in that, though odd, it is still singularly sweet, and musical.

Inoculation of Tubercle.

[Exchange,] A well-authenticated case of the inocula tion of tubercle is given in The Medical Lecord of Feb. 14. A healthy girl, a cook, broke a glass and ran a splinter into her middle finger. The glass was one used by her employer, who at the time was dying of phthisis, in which to expectorate. A nodule of granular matter formed and was removed, and eventually it was found necessary to amputate finger and remove the swollen glands of the elbow and the arm-pit. All the parts temoved showed tubercular degeneration and contained bacilli. Thus, whether the bacillus is cause, effect, or neither, it is gvident that tubercular poison is commu-

The number of medicine-supplying plants in the world is nearly double that of the fruit yielding.

Licable.

The Emma Abbott Kiss Outdone.

(Cincinnati Enquirer.) The Abbott kiss, which everybody has undoubtedly heard of, cannot be com-pared to Mantell's method of kissing. The latter evidently has a genius for kiss ing. The one he bestows on Miss Millward, who plays the part of Pauline, deserves to be photographed or cut in marble for preservation. When he meets marble for pre ervation. When he meets her they do not rush into each other's arms, jam their lips together and make a sound like the thwack of a club against a board fence. She does not loll her head on his bosom while he tries to break her ribs and clings to her lips like a su ker to a smooth brick. Nothing of the kind.

Under the fear and stress of his altered circumstances he does not kiss her at first, but as they get nearer each other, as her faithfulness shines out and realizes that she is to be his, he ap proaches the kissing point. He does it gradually and reverently, as to a sacred shrine where the tribute of his life's af fection is to be laid. Just after "l'auline" has spoken the fateful words, and they are about to leave. her face turns up to ward his; his heal droops slowly gently. He does not grab at it or snatch it with a jerk, but goes at it with bated breath, as if it were a delicacy too nice to touch; as if he were turning it over, viewing it, gloating over it, drawing from anticipation all the richness it can furnish before the fruit is plucked and eaten,

You can almost hear the pulsating heart throbs and feel the thrill of the supreme moment of realization as lip meets one soulful, blissful, ecstatic kiss of lov There is a brief contact of souls, a long drawn sigh, and the culmination has gone It is a bit of ethereal, artistic, soul expression, which Mantell catches on the wing and crystailizes. A quiver of sympathetic yearning passes through the feminine portion of the audience, and it is no wonder that Mantell crushes hearts. His kiss is a

What "Art-Industry" Leads to. [London Latter.]

In one respect my own experience is worth something. It is this: That if a boy or girl acqueres any industry or art in which he or she becomes proficient or even moderately skilled, that young per son, as soon as it pays a little, invariably devotes a great deal of time to it which would otherwise be wasted. I do not mean by this any kind of feeble, pretty work. A lady lately expressed to me a great disblief in art industry, because her daughter, who had learned to spoil look ing glasses by painting flowers—of course ...owers—all over them, could not find purchasers for her precious commodities! But I have found where children were trained not to "paint flowers" a one and do nothing else, but to execute practical, simple design, and its working out in many ways, that a higher faculty was awakened, and that industry awoke

Now, this inducing an interest in art industry in children leads directly to a more prosaic, practical interest in work of all kinds in the elder ones. You cannot teach a little boy a trade, but you can very easily teach him that which will in time make a trade very easy when he is older. Reading, writing, and arithmetic do not at all teach him how to be patient and sit long at a table while working. On the contrary, they have an opposite effect. But art work teaches or induces patient industry. He is led to this discipline by agreeable work. There are many who say this is all very fine, but it is all theory. say, however, that it is a practical and proved fact, and that no sensible man who ever saw an industrial art school of children at work could ever doubt it.

"Blowing Out the Gay" Explained. [Rosdter W. Raymond, Export.]

There is undoubtedly a vast deal of gratuitous insult and contumely heaped upon the head of "that fool who blew his gas I cannot believe that there are enough people of this exaggerated type of idiocy in the country to fill out the list of leaths from asphyxiation by illuminating gas I am of the opinion that in the majority of these causes the fault lies in having the gas turned down when retiring for the night, either from an idea of economy in the saving of matches or some other reason, and that the flame is afterward extinguished by any one of a number of natural causes, with result n insensibility and possible death of the victim from inhaling the escaping gas.

The following is a case in point: While staying at a hotel in littsburg recently discovered, by narrow escape from suf focation on my own part, that the gas had peculiar way of extinguishing itse After studying over the matter I came to the conclusion that the patent machine in which it was produced permitted air to enter so that at times there would not be sufficient gas emitted at the burner to sus tain combustion.

One night the entire house was aroused by the porter going through the corridors and pounding on ea h door and asking the rudely awakened guest if his gas was escaping, the halls being filled with it from some unknown source. In the morning the answer to the universal ques tion was: "O, that fool in No. 42 blew his gas out." "Excuse me, gentlemen," said I, "but I have been there myself That gas blew itself out, and the foolishness of No. 42 consisted in only expecting it to burn.

The French Canadians.

[Montreal Minerve.] We are to-day a good million and a half of French-speaking people who know what it means to speak French, and who will hand over our language to our children, who in half a century will number at least 12,000,000. Our children, be assured, will speak French without the need of any whip to force them. intend to keep up our language for all time, and so we have faith in our future. cur hard times have passed, and there is now in Canada a French center which will never be destroyed or kept down. Our 300 St. Jean Baptiste societies make this sure; our 500,000 compatriots emi-grated to the United States prove it. See their attachment to the French language in a place so fatal to every tongue but the English. It is when we have spread over Ontario and the United States, when we have made large holes in all English counties of the province of Quebec, when the Franco Acadian race is go visibly en-larging itself in the maritime provinces, that a prophet of evil, taking his desires for realities, dares to predict our future absorption?

Lotteries in France.

(Boston Advertiser, The French are fond of lotteries When the city of Paris issues a loan there is a lottery attached, by which the purchaser of a bond of 1,000 francs may draw 100, 000 francs. The lottery principle is to be ingrafted upon the approaching salon of 1885. There are to be 150,000 tickets sold at 1 franc each. Of this amount 185,000 are to be distributed in eleven lots of different sums. The possessor of a prize can then purchase of the artist any painting in the exhibition valued at the amount which his ticket represents

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