

## A Philosopher's Application For a Wife

By ELINOR MARSH

Albert St. Clair was a philosopher. He was born in America, but of English parents. He had papers to show that he was of good stock, but had never examined them. He believed all men to be a development of the ape.

St. Clair fell in love with a girl, who reciprocated. He didn't talk about man and woman having descended from apes. He talked the language of love. After he had proposed Laura Hilton—that was the girl's name—sent him to her father for an answer.

"I shall have to know more about you before I can give my consent," said Mr. Hilton. "To what family do you belong and what is your income?"

"I belong to the human family, and my income is \$2,000 a year. The principal was earned by lecturing on man and his ancestors."

"That is barely sufficient to lodge and feed yourself and a wife. You would have nothing for clothes and incidental expenses."

"Clothes are simply the covering of the lower animals which are transformed to man. What he does not get this way he derives from the vegetable kingdom. The sheep clothes him and his wife. She wears rat skins on her hands and sticks an ostrich feather in her hat. Her stockings when she is much dressed are the excrement of worms."

"Nevertheless you will find it inconvenient to get on without these articles. How about your family connections?"

"Family connections are of no more importance in man than any other animal. Indeed, the family connections of a horse are much more important than those of a man. A racing sire and dam are important, because swiftness of foot is inherited. In man swiftness of foot is of no importance. What is of importance in him is intellect. But intellectual man seldom marries intellectual woman, and if he does the children are liable to be only fools."

"That is all very well, but my daughter has associated with refined persons. If her husband's relatives are coarse she will not get on with them."

"What is refinement but a concealment of our brute instincts? Pigs eat; so does man. Pigs put the fore feet in the trough; man sits at a table and

eats with a knife and fork. The worst thing about him is that he eats the pig, which is the dirtiest of all animals. Man cannot get rid of his brute nature; he can only cover it over with a thin coat of veneer."

"That veneer is essential to our happiness. My daughter has associated with those who eat the daintiest food, wear the richest fabrics and ornaments. Surely you cannot supply her with jewels?"

"Nothing marks the barbarian more plainly than ornamentation of the body. The most barbarous woman wears necklaces and ear and lip rings of teeth or bone or metal. The most refined woman wears stones and metals."

"One with such ideas as yours is not apt to have much respect for the sacred ceremony of marriage."

"Marriage draws man away from his native state, the state of other animals. Four footed brides and grooms do not trouble themselves about each others' relatives and other detriments to a hearty progeny. If a strong and healthy man who eats with his knife desires to marry a strong and healthy woman who eats with her fork her relatives will defeat the union if they can. But if she desires to marry a living skeleton of birth and breeding they are delighted with the match."

"Mr. St. Clair, I have listened to your statement of reasons why you should be permitted to marry my daughter and am forced to admit that, while as reasons they are worthless, there are truths in them. Nevertheless I consider you the biggest fool I ever met. But, as you have said, intellect is not so liable to be inherited as strength, the intellectual man seldom marrying the intellectual woman, or vice versa, therefore if you are a king or a prince or even a nobleman, with large wealth, you may be my son-in-law; if not, I forbid the bans."

"Nothing remains," said St. Clair, bowing himself out, "but to look into my pedigree and learn whether any of my family, in whom I have never taken the slightest interest, have left me any money."

Later he returned to Mr. Hilton and said:

"I have examined papers in my possession and have learned that I am not a king."

"I thought not," said the other dryly.

"Nor am I a duke."

"Exactly."

"But my grandfather was an earl, and a letter bearing a coronet on it that I received some years ago and which I did not open informs me that my grandfather and father being dead, I am the Earl of Macknalton."

"Indeed!"

"And I am heir, so the letter says, to one of the largest estates in Eng-

## NOSTRO AGENTE



Il Sig. Augusto Buccieri, che per parecchio tempo ha fatto parte della famiglia del "Patriota come Agente e Collettore, dopo un'assenza di alcuni mesi passati in Pittsburg, è ritornato in Indiana per ripigliare i suoi studi alla Scuola Normale, e il suo posto presso il nostro giornale.

Egli, che gode tutta la nostra fiducia, essendo un giovane serio, intelligente e onesto, è autorizzato dalla nostra Amministrazione di trattare qualunque affare per conto del giornale e della tipografia.

Le cortesie che a lui saranno usate le riterremo come fatte a noi stessi, e perciò caldamente lo raccomandiamo ai nostri amici, abbonati ed avvisanti.

land."

"I congratulate you."

"If your daughter marries me she may wed a fool, but she will be Lady Macknalton and will be able to decorate her person as elaborately as the most degraded savage."

"The title and the jewels will be very acceptable."

"When shall the wedding ceremony take place?"

"Whenever your lordship desires."

**Pretty Ancient.**  
A Welsh chieftain quoted a genealogical tree which carried his family beyond Adam, but a living historian begins his book on the valley of the Connecticut at a date now 17,000,000 years old!—Florida Times-Union.

A gold coin loses 5 per cent of its value during sixteen years of constant use.

**Expecting Too Much.**  
It was a cold, raw day, but the Neversweats and the Fearnights were playing a game of ball on the prairie just the same.

The pitcher for the Neversweats, his fingers half frozen, failed dismally in getting the balls over the plate.

"Aw," said the captain, "I t'ought ye wuz one o' dese cold weather pitchers!"

"I am," said the slab artist, blowing on his benumbed digits to warm them. "but I aint a ice pitcher, blame ye!"—Chicago Tribune.

**"A Heart Bowed Down," Etc.**  
A teacher in a Boston public school received an examination from a little girl of ten years, who wrote beneath the questions she had answered:  
"If some of these questions are wrongly answered it will be because I have troubles of which the great world neither knows nor cares, therefore excuse wrong answers."—Exchange.

## Voter's Catechism

D. Have you read the Constitution of the United States?

R. Yes.

D. What form of Government is this?

R. Republic.

D. What is the Constitution of the United States?

R. It is the fundamental law of this country.

D. Who makes the laws of the United States?

R. The Congress.

D. What does Congress consist of?

R. Senate and House of Representatives.

D. Who is our State Senator?

R. Wilbur P. Graff.

D. Who is the chief executive of the United States?

R. President.

D. For how long is the President of the United States elected?

R. Four years.

D. Who takes the place of the President in case he dies?

R. The Vice President.

D. What is his name?

R. Thomas R. Marshall.

D. By whom is the President of the United States elected?

R. By the electors.

D. By whom are the electors chosen?

R. By the people.

D. Who makes the laws for the State of Pennsylvania.

R. The Legislature.

D. What does the Legislature consist of?

R. Senate and Assembly.

D. Who is our Assemblyman?

R. Wilmer H. Wood.

D. How many States in the union?

R. Forty-eight.

D. When was the Declaration of Independence signed?

R. July 4, 1776.

D. By whom was it written?

R. Thomas Jefferson.

D. Which is the capital of the United States?

R. Washington.

D. Which is the capital of the state of Pennsylvania.

R. Harrisburg.

D. How many Senators has each state in the United States?

R. Two.

D. Who are our U. S. Senators?

R. Boise Penrose and George T. Oliver.

D. By whom are they elected?

R. By the people.

D. For how long?

R. Six years.

D. How many representa-

tives are there?

R. 435. According to the population one to every 211,000, (the ratio fixed by Congress after each decennial census.)

D. For how long are they elected?

R. Two years.

D. Who is our Congressman?

R. Nathan L. Strong.

D. How many electoral votes has the state of Pennsylvania?

R. Thirty-eight.

D. Who is the chief executive of the state of Pennsylvania?

R. The Governor.

D. For how long is he elected?

R. 4 years.

D. Who is the Governor?

R. Martin G. Brumbaugh.

D. Do you believe in organized government?

R. Yes.

D. Are you opposed to organized government?

R. No.

D. Are you an anarchist?

R. No.

D. What is an anarchist?

R. A person who does not believe in organized government.

D. Are you a bigamist or polygamist?

R. No.

D. What is a bigamist or polygamist?

R. One who believes in having more than one wife.

D. Do you belong to any secret society who teaches to disbelieve in organized government?

R. No.

D. Have you ever violated any laws of the United States?

R. No.

D. Who makes the ordinances for the City?

R. The board of aldermen.

D. Do you intend to remain permanently in the U. S.?

R. Yes.

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