JUNE, THE BEST MONTH OF THE YEAR

SUPERSTITIONS HOARY WITH AGE.

Curious, Quaint and Beautiful Customs of Various Lands Are Here Described.

Why are May weddings regarded as unlucky? Why are June weddings specially propitious? And why, oh, why, should old shoes be flung after and, indeed, at the bride? What say the poets?

Marry in May,
And rue the day.

But, on the other hand:

Marry in June,
All life be in tune.

All three of these superstitions are hoary with age. They were already antiquated when the legend about St. Swithin's Day was invented. It might be too much to say that they are as old as marriage itself. But they certainly antedate the classic age. Thus Ovid, in his "Fasti," refers to what he describes as the familiar belief that May is a bad month in which to marry. And the same poet, after careful investigation of the various months of the year, selected June for the time of his own daughter's wedding, because, as he said, it was "good to the man and happy to the maid."

That June should be a favorite month for weddings is explicable from its character as the month of roses and other flowers; although the beginning of May was the time of the Floralia festival of the old Romans. Still the partialty for June has never been as marked or as general as the avoidance of May. While the Romans preferred June, the Greeks greatly inclined to January. The Russians have long had a belief, said to have come down from the early Eastern Church, that weddings at Easter bring wealth, at Ascension Day health, at Whitsuntide domestic felicity and at Trinity Sunday many offspring.

Shoes Take Prominent Part.

The custom of throwing old shoes after the bride is of comparable antiquity, though it has assumed many different forms. Among the Jews, probably before our era, it was customary to carry a slipper, preferably one well worn, at the head of a wedding procession, in token of the complete submission of the bride to her husband; though it is not known that it was indicative of his use of it after the orthodox manner of inflicting chastisement. The same custom of carrying a slipper or sandal has prevailed from ancient times among other Oriental peoples, and is still familiar. Among the Nestorians it was once the custom for the groom to kick the bride and for her then to remove from his foot the sandal with which he had kicked her. Some Jews struck their brides light blows with a slipper, as a token that they must thereafter be submissive to their will. In Russia it was an ancient custom for the groom on the wedding night to require the bride to kneel before him and pull off his boots. In one of the boots was a small whip, and in the other a purse of money. If she pulled off first the boot containing the whip, he struck her with the lash, as a token that she might thereafter expect frequent floggings; while if she first disclosed the purse, he would lavish gifts upon her and their domestic life would be happy. A variant of this was practiced by Martin Luther, who, after performing the wedding ceremony, took off a shoe of the bridegroom and placed it upon the bride's pillow, as a reminder that she must always be subservient to her husband.

History of Wedding Ring.

The wedding ring, now so essential a part of the service and so indispensable an object, seems to have come into use at a comparatively recent date, and to have had at first less significance than now. It was given as only one among various presents and, as an emblem of eternity, was meant to indicate the lasting nature of the marital vows. Among our Anglo-Saxon ancestors it was the custom for the prospective bridegroom, on becoming betrothed to his intended bride, to give her certain presents called a "wed," or pledge; from which word the word "wedding" is derived. An essential part of this "wed" was a ring, which was placed upon the girl's right hand; in brief, an engagement ring, as we now know it. That ring was never removed, under pain of breaking the engagement, until the wedding, when the bridegroom himself removed it and placed it upon the left hand, to serve as the wedding ring. Then he placed it upon each of the four fingers in succession, saying at the first "In the name of the Father," at the second "In the name of the Son," at the third "And in the name of the Holy Ghost," and at the fourth "Amen."

An old Scottish custom, now practically if not entirely extinct, was that of "creeling" the bridegroom. It was practiced on the day afer he wedding. Early in the morning, often before the newly married couple had arisen, the neighbors flocked to the door, and summoned the bridegroom to appear. Then they seized him, bound upon his back a large creel, or basket, and filled it with stones. Thus laden he was compelled to run, or at least to walk, about the town until his wife saw fit to run after him, overtake him, and kiss him; when he was relieved of his burden. The distance which his wife let him run before releasing him was variously interpreted as indicative of the strength of her affection for him, of her bashfulness, and of her sense of humor. This custom was strictly enforced, the man who was last "creeled" having charge of directing and superintending its infliction upon the next who was married.

Burdensome and even painful as some of these ancient customs were, it may be that some couples of the present day would find them less grievous and embarrassing than some of the more sophisticated practices of the twentieth century.

Age Shown by the Hand.

It is only within very recent years that women have thought it worth while to give proper care to their hands. Nowadays the average shopgirl bestows more attention upon her nails than did the "fine lady" of a generation or two ago.

There is much other care given to the hands, including massage—the latter of special importance because it tends to keep the flesh plump and discourages wrinkles. Wrinkles commonly appear on the hands before the face shows any, and thus a woman's hands may betray her age.

One might even say that the hands grow old sooner than the face. The fatty tissue that lies immediately beneath the skin gradually shrinks with the passage of years; the skin becomes loose and falls into folds.

The skin on the back of your hand shows how old you are. Pinch it and you will see. If you are young the skin will almost instantly become smooth again. Later in life, if pinched up, it will retain the crinkle for some moments.

In youth the nails are smooth and usually have a slight rosy tint. As years go on they lose their color and somewhat of their delicate texture, often exhibiting in later life minute corrugations lengthwise. Careful manicuring will do much to obviate any such appearance of change.

Surnames and Their Origin

BENNETT

Variations—Bennis, Bennison, Benn, Benedetto, Di Benedetto, Bennewitz, Benedict, Benedict. .....
Racial Origin—English, German, Italian, Slavic.
Source—A given name.

Family names in this group are quite widespread, not only among English-speaking peoples, but among virtually all the countries of Enrope. So many variations are there, in fact, that it is not practicable to discuss them all in one article.

The group, of course, is the outgrowth of the given name of Benedict, or, to give it the original Latin form, Benedictus. This given name has a meaning of "blessed," or more literally, "well spoken of." It naturally ranked high in the Middle Ages as a given name, and quite logically there developed from it a host of family names.

Bennett is the survival as a surname of a Norman diminutive of the given name. Bennis represents a shortening from Bennison, which in turn was a development of "Bennettson." Benn is a still further shortened example. Benedetto and Di Benedetto are Italian forms, the latter being closer to the original, the "di" meaning "of" and standing for "son of." In this country there has been a strong tendency to drop the "di" from transplanted family names.

Benedict appears for the most part to be a straight English development from the given name, while the "k" in Benedikt betrays German influence.

Bennewitz in its ending, which also indicates "son," comes from farther east, in view of which it is interesting to notice the similarity of this ending and the old Norman-French prefix "Fitz," with exactly the same meaning.

SELLERS.

Variations—Seller, Seeler, Sadler.
Racial Origin—English.
Source—Occupation.

It is not possible to tell with accuracy in the the individual case which of two sources these family names have come from, with the exception of the last named.

It may be taken for granted, however, that, like Sadler, the rest of them in the vast majority of cases come from the occupation of making saddles. The assumption that there is any connection with our modern word "seller," or salesman, is erroneous, for the medieval English did not use this word to designate tradesmen.

Sadler is a form of the name traceable to the Anglo-Saxon word. "Sell," however, was the word most often used by the Normans in the early period to denote a saddle, and it endured for a long time. In fact, it did not become obsolete until after Spencer wrote:

"He left his loftey steed with golden sell,
And goodly gorgeous barbes."

The form Sellers, Seller and Seeler, however, may also be derived from the old word "seler," which was the appellation of those craftsmen who manufactured seals.

Saves Time - Saves Health

Here is a table drink made as quickly as you can pour hot water into the cup

INSTANT POSTUM

delights the taste, and causes none of the harm that often comes from tea and coffee.

"There's a Reason"

A SMILE IN EVERY DOSE OF BABY'S OWN TABLETS

Baby's Own Tablets are a regular joy giver to the little ones—they never fail to make the cross baby happy. When baby is cross and fretful the mother may be sure something is the matter for it is not baby's nature to be cross unless he is ailing. Mothers, if your baby is cross; if he cries a great deal and needs your constant attention day and night, give him a dose of Baby's Own Tablets. They are a mild but thorough laxative which will quickly regulate the bowels and stomach and thus relieve constipation and indigestion, colds and simple fevers and make baby happy—there surely is a smile in every dose of the Tablets. Baby's Own Tablets are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

The Path of Labor.

Never in a costly palace did I rest on golden bed,
Never in a hermit's covern have I eaten idle bread,
Born within a lowly stable, where the cattle round me stood,
Trained a carpenter in Nazareth, I have toiled and found it good.
They who tread the path of labor follow where my feet have trod;
They who work without complaining do the holy will of God.

Where the many toil together, there am I among my own,
Where the tired workman sleepeth, there am I with him alone,
I, the peace that passeth knowledge, dwell amid the daily strife,
I, the bread of heaven, am broken in the sacrament of life.

—Henry Van Dyke.

Ask for Minard's and take no other.

A Poem.

Seeing,, it is a gladdening thing;
White birds against a morning sky.
Blowing poppies, nodding grasses,
Light that grows and fades and passes,
Young leaved poplars shining high.

And God be thanked that gave us hearing
For children's laughter, sweet and bold,
For winds that whisper old hills round,
For every intimate sweet sound
The quiet golden evenings hold.

But oh, 'tis scent that makes immortal
The little lives of mortal men!
Roses with haunting sweetness riven,
Incense, to lift men's hearts to Heaven,
Lilacs, to draw them home again.

—Margaret Adelaide Wilson.

Father Knew.

After correcting Tommy for the thousandth time for talking in school, his teacher decided to speak of this fault to the lad's father. She therefore added this remark to her next report:

"Tommy talks a great deal."

"In two days the report came back, correctly signed by Tommy's father, with the comment:

"You ought to hear his mother!"

The sun gives 800 000 times more light than the moon.

A DESIRE TO EAT WHAT YOU WANT

Stomachs Can be Restored to a Healthy Condition.

Not to be limited in diet, but to eat whatever he pleases is the dream of every dyspeptic. No one can honestly promise to restore any stomach to this happy condition, because all people cannot eat the same things with equally satisfactory results. But it is possible to so tone up the digestive organs that a pleasing diet may be selected from articles of food that cause no discomfort.

When the stomach lacks tone there is no quicker way to restore it than to build up the blood. Good digestion without rich, red blood is impossible, and Dr. Williams' Pink Pills offer the best way to enrich the blood. For this reason these pills are especially good in stomach trouble attended by thin blood, and in attacks of nervous dyspepsia. Proof of the value of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills in cases of indigestion is given by Mr. John A. McDonald, Tarbot, N.S., who says: "Every sufferer from indigestion has my heartfelt sympathy, as I was once myself a bond slave to it. Eating at all became a trial, and as time went on I became a mere skeleton of my former self. I took all sorts of recommended medicines, doctors' and advertised, but to no avail. Then a friend said to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I got a box and I thought before they were done I could feel a change. Then I got six boxes more, and by the time they were used I was eating my meals with regularity and enjoyment. My general health is now good, and it is no wonder that I am an enthusiastic advocate of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills."

You can procure Dr. Williams' Pink Pills through any dealer in medicine or they will be sent you by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for $2.50 by writing direct to The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Old Man.

Old man, old man, sitting in the sun,
What was the struggle worth now the race is run?
How does life look to you now its all behind?
Under your bald pate what lingers in your mind?

I wonder if you cherish still
The blue day on the windy hill
When first your eyes met hers, and things
Bright as a pigeon's sheeny wings
Flashed through you, and delight
Burned you with kisses white.

I wonder do you dwell with pride
On those rough days in which you tried
Your strength against your fellow men,
And won and lost and won again—
Happy to toil and strive
That you should be alive!

Is gladness hid in moonlit eyes
When love comes sighing through the leaves?
Or is it garish, stressful days
To which your hungry fancy strays—
Green seas, the busy mart,
Which wrote upon your heart?

Have you regret for marriage ties?
Did children make you sad and wise?
What mattered much? What not at all?
And, prithee, what would you recall
And leave undone, to reap
Sounder and sweeter sleep?

Old man, old man, drawing near the night,
Speak wisely through your beard, answer me aright—
That I may have good dreamings when life is done,
Leaving me to bide as you, cold in the sun.

—Dale Colling.

Explorers Advance Toward Mt. Everest.

Somewhere in the tangled maze of the southern Himalayan Mountains three parties of British engineers are working their way through unexplored gorges and passes toward the base of Mount Everest, says a despatch from Darjeeling, Bengal. They are blazing the way for the expedition that will attempt later this summer to scale the granite walls of Everest and conquer the highest peak on the globe.

The first party to leave here was commanded by Major Morshead, which proceeded up the Teesta Valley and over what is known as the Kangrila route. The other two units, commanded by Colonel Bury, intend to meet the Morshead party at Khamba Jong. Then the combined expedition will strike westward toward the village of Tengri Jong, which is about thirty miles north of the Everest group. A permanent base will be selected near that village and from it will start the party which will try to reach the summit of the dominating peak of the range.

Before the actual work of scaling Everest can begin, however, engineers must survey all approaches to the mountain and try to find the most practicable route to the top. This reconnaissance work is the chief task assigned the men now working their way into the mountains.

Communities of ants have their warrior class, and two fighting ants of different tribes will put up a great battle, and with their powerful nippers make short work of one another once they get to holds.

BITS OF HUMOR FROM HERE & THERE

Good Joke; Few Clothes.

He—"Will you marry me?"

She—"Do you think you could keep me in clothes?"

He—"Well, partly in. You wouldn't want to dress out of style, would you?"

In the Good Old Summer Time.

"How's this back to the farm movement progressing?"

"Fine right now," said Mr. Cobbles.

"Yes?"

"All the town kin I've got want to come out an' pay me a visit."

Not So Fast.

Uncle Hayseed: "Then city folks ain't so fast as I was supposin'."

Aunt Furby: "How's that, John?"

Uncle Hayseed: "I went to one of them theatres and they were still a-playin' 'Hamlit' that I seed ten years ago."

Parting For Ever.

He (tremblingly): "I have one last wi-wish to ask you be-before we part in anger for ever."

She (sobbingly): "Wha-what is it, Geo-George?"

He: "Wi-will you me-meet me next Th-Thursday as us-usual?"

She: "I wi-will, George."

Definitely Located.

An emigrant ship was wrecked, and many survivors landed on the Falkland Islands. When the news reached home, the minister of a church to which some of the emigrants had belonged included in the service a prayer for the victims of the wreck.

Being a very cautious man, he worded his prayer in this way:

"Be with our brethren stranded in the Falkland Islands, which are situated in the South Atlantic ocean."

Following Advice.

"He's perfectly quiet, ladies," remarked the man to the two girls who were about to hire a pony and trap. "Only you must take care to keep the rein off his tail."

"We won't forget," they said.

When they returned he asked them how they got on.

"Splendidly," they explained. "We had one sharp shower, but we took it in turn to hold the umbrella over the horse's tail, so there was no real danger."

Common Taters!

A country clergyman was preaching on an obscure point of theology, which he explained in an original and striking manner. He concluded by saying, "This is entirely my own view. Commentators do not agree with me."

The next day he was informed that one of his parishioners wished to see him. Going into his study he was greeted with cordiality by one of his sidesmen, who happened to be a market gardener.

"Morning, sir," beamed the caller. "Heard you say yesterday as common taters didn't agree wi' yer, so I've brought a sack of my best. Hope you'll get on better with them."

MONEY ORDERS.

Send a Dominion Express Money Order. They are payable everywhere.

Why He Was Late.

Amongst the many stories that are current concerning the new Unionist leader, Mr. Austin Chamberlain, is one about an incident that happened at Highbury, his father's seat near Birmingham.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain had laid out a plantation of younger fir trees in the grounds, of which he was exceedingly proud, notwithstanding the fact that the majority of the sapplings measured no more than two or three feet in height.

One evening it chanced that Mr. Austen turned up late at a dinner party to which a number of notables has been bidden.

The son entered in fear and trembling, for he knew that unpunctuality was the one unpardonable sin in his father's eyes.

"You are very late, Auste," said the latter reprovingly.

"Yes, I'm sorry," replied the culprit, at a loss for a moment for a suitable excuse.

Then his face brightened and a twinkle came into his eyes.

"Couldn't possibly get here before, father," he said. "I lost my way in your new forest."

"Milk," manufactured from chopped oats, ground peanuts, and a little water, is said to resemble the creamiest product of the cow.

Rural Route No. 1, Mascouche, Quebec.
The Minard's Liniment People,

Sirs,—I feel that I should be doing a wrong if I neglected to write you. I have had four tumors growing on my head for years. I had them cut off by a surgeon about fifteen years ago, but they grew again till about three months ago I had one as large and shaped like a lady's thimble on the very place where my hair should be parted, and it was getting so embarrassing in public that it was a constant worry to me. About three months ago I got a bottle of your liniment for another purpose and saw on the label good for tumors. Well, I tried it and kept at it for exactly two months, with the result that it has entirely removed all trace of the tumor, and were it not that they had been cut fifteen years ago, no mark would be seen. I have not been asked for this testimonial and you can use it as you see fit.

(Signed) FRED C. ROBINSON.

P.S.—I am a farmer and intend using Minard's Liniment on mare for a strained tendon, and am hoping for some results.

FRED C. R.

AFRAID TO GO OUT ON STREET ALONE

MRS. BEVERAGE LIVED IN FEAR OF ATTACKS.

Dizzy Spells Overcome After Taking Tanlac and Doesn't Feel Like Same Person.

"Tanlac has relieved me of my suffering and I just can't praise it enough," said Mrs. Margaret Beverage, 305 Hughson St. North, Hamilton, Ont.

"For two years my appetite was very poor and I suffered a great deal from formation of gas on my stomach. I was also troubled with frequent attacks of dizziness and was actually afraid to go out or even get away from something to hold on to. One of these dizzy spells came on while I was calling on one of my grandchildren one day and I just fell right down on the lawn. Last spring, when I started taking Tanlac, I had been confined to my bed for a month and was so weak I could not walk.

"Tanlac helped me from the very start, as I have not had a weak spell since I started taking it and I feel so good I can hardly realize that I'm the same woman. The dizzy spells are gone, my appetite is fine and everything I eat agrees with me perfectly. I have recommended Tanlac to any number of my friends and, I am glad to say, it has benefitted them all. I just wish I could tell everybody who suffers as I did what Tanlac did for me."

Tanlac is sold by leading druggists everywhere. Adv.

New French Stamps.

The French recently held a competition for designs intended for a new issue of postage stamps. Nearly all of the designs submitted were suggested by the war; the best ones show a splendid Gallic cock crowing in triumph, the head of a poilu in a steel helmet and a head representing France in a winged cap. None of the designs won the highest prize offered, for none was thought sufficiently original or striking to merit it. It may be that none of the three prize-winning designs will replace the present graceful design of the Sower, though the matter has not yet been decided.

Minard's Liniment Relieves Neuralgia

It's good to have money, and the things that money can buy, but it's good, too, to check up once in a while, and make sure that you haven't lost the things that money won't buy.

There is one divorce for every seven marriages in Japan, one for every ten marriages in the United States, and one for every ten thousand in England.

America's Pioneer Dog Remedies
Book on
DOG DISEASES
and How to Feed
Mailed Free to any Address by the Author.
H. Clay Glover Co., Inc.
113 West 31st Street
New York, U.S.A.

ASPIRIN

"Bayer" is only Genuine

BAYER

Warning! Unless you see the name "Bayer" on package or on tablets you are not getting genuine Aspirin all. In every Bayer package are directions for Colds, Headache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Earache, Toothache, Lumbago and for Pain. Handy tin boxes of twelve tablets cost few cents. Druggists also sell larger packages. Made in Canada. Aspirin is the trade mark (registered in Canada), of Bayer Manufacture of Monoaceticacidester of Salicylicacid.

CUTICURA HEALS ECZEMA

All over baby's face. Came in water blisters and then formed a solid scale. Began to itch and burn so had to bandage his hands as he wanted to scratch. Face was badly disfigured. Trouble lasted 4 months. Began using Cuticura Soap and Ointment. Used one cake Soap and one box Ointment when he was healed.

From signed statement of Mrs. Albert Ellis, Wettenberg, N. S.

For every purpose of the toilet Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Talcum are supreme.

Soap 25c, Ointment 25 and 50c. Sold throughout the Dominion. Canadian Depot: Lymans, Limited, St. Paul St., Montreal.
Cuticura Soap shaves without mug.

ISSUE No. 25—'21.