The Georgetown Herald.

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3 Reels Each Evening
Admission 10c | Children 5c

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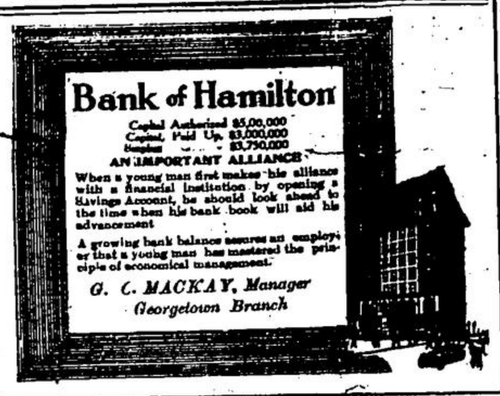

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RESERVE FUND $7,000,000
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TOTAL ASSETS $84,000,000
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Poetry.

THE VICE.

(By Henry Newbolt.)

England! where the sacred flame
Burnt before the Ionian shrine,
Where the lips that love thy name
Welcome thee, where'er thou wend,
Watch beside thine arms to-night,
Pray that God defend the Right.
Think that when to-morrow comes
War shall claim ascendancy of us,
Then must hear the roll of drums,
Then must hear the trumpet's call,
Now before they silence rush,
Commune with the voice of truth;
England! on thy knees to-night
Pray that God defend the Right.
Simple-hearted, unafraid,
Hither all thy heroes came,
On this altar's steps were laid
Gordon's life and Outram's fame.
England! if thy will be yet
By their great example set,
Here beside thine arms to-night
Pray that God defend the Right.
So shalt thou when morning comes
Rise to conquer or to fall,
Joyful hear the rolling drums,
Joyful hear the trumpets call.
Then let Memory tell thy heart;
"England! what thou wert, thou art!"
Gird thee with thine ancient might,
Forth! and God defend the Right!

To-Day's Story.

A MATRIMONIAL THEORIST

His Theories Did Not Work in Practice

By ESTHER VANDEVEER

In this age of skepticism regarding marriages there are those whose faith in it cannot be shaken. They are persons who have been happily married and about whom children have sprung. To such marriage is their whole world. They are not interested in any one of the plans which are invented for experimental marriage or easy divorce. To them the loss of a single child is an irreparable misfortune, and to the family as a whole the loss of either parent is the greatest calamity that can befall them.

It is either those whose married life has been a failure or those who have never been married at all who are seeking substitutes for the wedlock of the present day. The former usually take the initiative by advancing new ideas concerning it; the latter, with a few exceptions, are ready to jump into matrimony without consideration.

Among young unmarried persons interested in forethought in this matter were Edward Ellis and Rebecca Sayles. Neither was disposed to take life, its joys and its sorrows as they came, but most plan everything ahead. Being much interested in many problems they were likely to find trouble, confusion, and an attachment springing up between them. Ellis weighed bachelor life against married life and found the advantages and disadvantages of equal weight. On the one side there was something to tie to, on the other loneliness that increased with old age. He granted that if a marriage turned out happily the advantages outweighed the disadvantages. If it was a failure it was unbearable.

This view of it led Ellis just where it has led a host of other thinkers on the subject—first, to guard against injudicious marriages; second, to render them easily dissolved when the parties found themselves not mated. He spent a great deal of time on both these problems and at last solved them to his satisfaction. No couple, he said, should be married without trying the experiment; no couple should be married without a premuptial agreement that at the option of either they should live apart and both assist in securing a divorce.

Miss Sayles, whose views on the subject of marriage had been influenced by the matrimonial troubles of an aunt rather than a mental bent toward the discussion of abstruse problems, agreed with Mr. Ellis as to the premuptial, but was "at sea" with regard to the remedy. She shrank from the breaking up of a family—something a woman would be more likely to feel than a man since the maternal is stronger than the paternal instinct. She failed to see how the damage once done could be remedied. Anyway, it would leave a terrible scar.

However, if Ellis did not convert her to his views as to separation, provided marriage proved a failure, he finally persuaded her to consent to his premuptial agreement. He was perfectly satisfied with this, because she was a girl who would never go back on her promise. They lived near each other, met frequently and by mutual agreement refrained from trying to convince each other that they were far better than they appeared. At least they tried to appear what they were, but whether they succeeded or not is an open question.

At the end of a year of such intercourse they were married. Ellis' premuptial agreement as to separation in case their marriage proved a failure was put in writing. He gave his bride a copy and kept a copy for himself.

The Ellises lived together ten years without any more matrimonial agreements than the average married couple. During that period four children came to them, two boys and two girls. Ellis remained in accord with those cynical flings at marriage which have been so popular of recent years. When he went to the theater and heard an actor crack jokes illustrative of what a husband must endure he would applaud vociferously. He read a novel on the theme of domestic unhappiness and recommended it to a friend. The friend handed it back with the comment that neither he nor the world was interested in the subject treated, adding that what was wanted were stories of married comfort and family affection. Ellis looked upon the critic ever after as a man of very narrow mental compass.

Twelve years after the marriage of Ellis and Miss Sayles he one day handed out his copy of their premuptial agreement for a separation in case their married happiness failed. It gave her the surprise of her life. She had believed, to his intense amazement, that despite great outlaws, but considered that they spring from a desire to be facetious. She was aware of what the wife must endure, but during the term of years she had been married her mind became had prevailed over the theories of inexperienced youth, and she felt glad to consider Ellis on the same footing as other mortals, only and that for the sake of both parents and children they must be passed over with as little disturbance as possible. Indeed, she realized that it was far more important that they be smoothed over than other necessary evils.

Her husband said nothing when he handed her the paper, but she knew what he meant. In his premuptial agreement he had not thought it necessary to mention children. He had them not had children and was on the same plane in this respect as other bachelors. Children in a matrimonial separation he had not considered.

Mrs. Ellis bore up without flinching under the blow. She said not a word as to the separation except what was necessary for making new plans. The schools in the town in which she lived were excellent, the children had always lived in the house they occupied, and it would be inconvenient to move them. She therefore told her husband that if they were to separate he would have to do the separating; she would remain at home with the children. He had become sufficiently separated with family requirements to realize that the children would require their schools and still more their mother. He had always left them to her keeping and did not relish their care. So it was agreed that he should go to live at a distance. Not being actively occupied, it made no difference where he lived.

Mrs. Ellis did not ask her husband the cause of his desire for a separation; therefore he did not make it known. The truth is that ordinary family jars working on a man whose brain was full of matrimonial theories had led him to take the course he did.

It was agreed between husband and wife that the fact that he was to depart permanently was not to be imparted to the children. They were to be told that their father was going away and his return was left indefinite. His wife packed his belongings, and he saw her doing the work he wondered how he was to get them unpacked, for to this she had always attended, and he had become absolutely useless to either packing or unpacking.

When all was ready Ellis kissed his children, then turned to his wife. She had turned away and was busying herself putting some toilet articles in his satchel. He assumed that she did not wish to be kissed, and it gave him a pang. But it must be remembered that he was not going away on account of a special quarrel or elimination of quarrels, but on general principles. He kissed all the children, and they noticed that he hugged them very close.

"Why, papa," said little Ed, "you're crying."

The only reply was a closer hug. As soon as the father had hidden goodby to them he seized his satchel and shot out of the door without looking back to the wonder of all except the mother.

There is no fool like the theoretic fool. He can see one theory that have grown up in his mind, which seeming more and more perfect to him the while, and not see some glaring defect that to another will plainly let down his whole fabric. Ellis' fabric was toppling before he left home. He had no sooner got to his new quarters and looked about him in a room in which there were furniture and decorations, but no living being, when it collapsed utterly. That night was the most miserable of his existence. He did not sleep, but lay awake trying to form a plan whereby he might go home and save his face at the same time.

First, he thought of [illegible] and his wife and if she would agree to abide by them he would go home and try to live in peace. He even wrote out several of these rules, but tore them up. He thought of various expedients, but none seemed practical.

In the morning when all his plans were discarded he wrote a note to his wife admitting his mistake and asking whether if he came home he would be received as before his departure. Mrs. Ellis replied that he would be welcome, adding no condition or stipulation whatever. He had scarcely received her note when he called an automobile and told the chauffeur to drive, irrespective of speed limit, to his home.

His wife met him at the door and threw her arms about his neck. Together they went into the dining room, where the children were just finishing their morning meal. All rose and jumped upon him. The older ones had suspected that something was wrong in the father's going and were much moved at his sudden return. When the greetings were over and the children on their way to school Ellis said to his wife:

"Where are those copies of our premuptial agreement?

Mrs. Ellis disappeared and soon returned with the articles inquired for. Raising them, her husband tore them into bits and threw them into the fire burning on the hearth.

"Wife," he said with animation, "it is my opinion that these newfangled plans for trial marriages and easy divorces are for persons who either can't get on together or have never been married. For you and me they are ridiculous.

"They will not help those who are happily married, and, as for those who are unhappily married, God help them!"

That was the end of Ellis' matrimonial theories. When after that he and his wife had a spat, according to an agreement they made after his return, they made it up before going to sleep that night. This they found to be a great advantage in many ways. First, it ended the spat sooner. It got them used to cutting short their differences; third, they soon became used to considering such disagreements as mere explosions of nervous irritation and not worth explaining. At any rate, they grew closer each year, and today Ellis wonders how he could have been such a fool.

EACH MADE A MISTAKE.

[illegible] in Pale Plays.

Sam Showalter was having a game of his surplus stock. He sold the cattle he had got a milk cow, one of the best of his herd, and told the purchaser she was four years old. John Dawson, a long, leathery, another blatant fellow with a shrewd eye, bid in the cow. He gave Showalter a check for the amount and said he would come for the cow the next day.

"I tell you, John," said Showalter when Dawson rode up the next morning to lead home his purchase, "I made a mistake yesterday. I said that your wife only four years old, but when I talked it over with my old woman last night I remembered that she is eight years old. It was another cow altogether that I had in mind."

"I didn't want to let a mistake like that go with a neighbor," continued Showalter, whose word was not questioned by accepted as entirely dependable in the community, "so I thought the fair thing to do was to tell you and just let you take your check back and I'll keep the cow."

Dawson squinted his eye approvingly at the cow—she had every mark of a good milker—and then looked appraisingly at Showalter.

"Well, Sam," he said, "turn about is fair play. You made a mistake yesterday; I'll make one today and just keep the cow."—Youth's Companion.

FANS, BASEBALL BRAND.

Are Most of Them Imitations of the Newspaper Cartoon?

My own belief is that the fan, as the baseball writers and cartoonist have depicted him, is a very rare being. To the extent that he does exist he is the creation, not of the baseball diamond, but of the sporting writer and the comic artist. The fan models himself consciously upon the type set before him in his favorite newspaper. It is once more a case of nature imitating art.

If Mr. Gibson many years ago had not drawn a picture of fat man in shirt sleeves, perspiring freely and waving straw hats the newspaper artists would not have imitated Mr. Gibson, and the baseball audience would not have imitated the newspapers. It is true that I have seen baseball crowds in frenzy, but these have been isolated moments of high tension when all of us have been brought to our feet with loud cries (shouts of joy or again).

But the perspiring, shirking fan in shirt sleeves, consistently waving his straw hat, whatever impressions on the enemy, his enthusiasm obviously aroused by stimulants preceding his arrival at the baseball park, is far from being representative of the baseball crowd.—Simeon Strunsky in Atlantic Monthly.

Atomic Attraction.

Hydrogen and oxygen gases separately may be compressed to the liquid form, and then the compression further is exceedingly difficult. But in the chemical union of two atoms of hydrogen with one of oxygen to form a water molecule the immense force of atomic attraction, or chemism, as one may prefer to name the force, is one of the most powerful in nature. It reduces huge volumes of the gases down to a far less volume, and the force is far greater than can be secured in any machine of screws, levers or hydraulic presses. Atomic attraction is perhaps the most powerful in nature. At least it is strong enough to hold atoms of wood and [illegible] together and [illegible] monds.—New York American.

Napier at the Battle of Mesanee.

When in the fight I held my life as gone, for as to escaping all idea of that vanished when I saw the Twenty-second giving way and was obliged to ride between the fires of two lines not twenty yards apart. I expected death as much from our men as the enemy, and I was much stunned by one ball, my whiskers twice singed, thrice so and my face peppered by fellows who in their fear fired [illegible] broken hand the bad sprained it a few days before; and quite unequal to a single combat had a Baluchee picked me out, as one was about to do when Gordon view, him.—Letter of Sir Charles Napier.

ACOUSTIC CLOUDS.

Why Church Bells Sound Louder on Some Days Than on Others.

Every one has noticed that on certain days church bells are heard much better than on others and sometimes are not heard at all on other days. The same distance intervenes between the church and the person's residence, the same intensity is used to strike the bell, the same visible obstacles are between the two at one time as at another.

Then why does the intensity of the peal vary? It has been found that there are what is known as "acoustic clouds" in the air. They cannot be seen, but they may be detected artificially. They have the property of reflecting sound just as a brick wall has. So if a thick one of these so called "clouds" intervene between the church bell and the observer most of the sound is reflected back to the bell, and very little gets through. The acoustic clouds consist simply of a large quantity of water vapor in the air, and water vapor itself is invisible. So we are able to see through something that we cannot hear through. Generally, of course, it is the other way round. We can hear through a piece of black paper, but we cannot see through it.

Now, if these acoustic clouds are disposed in a certain manner it is possible that they will reflect the sound into a region where the bell's tone is ordinarily not heard at all save when the clouds are present and disposed in the proper manner.—Chicago Herald.

Still Observe Bonfire Festival.

The old midsummer fire festival of druidical origin is still celebrated on the continent, but there is probably only one spot in Great Britain where it is still observed, and that is Turbolton, in Ayrshire. For days before the festival the village lads collect materials for the great bonfire. The fuel is built upon an altar of turf, and a match is applied at sunset, after which the folk solemnly march around the blaze, and the daring youngsters vie with one another in dashing through the flames.—