

Notwithstanding the earnest opposition of the Archbishop of Canterbury, a bill permitting marriage with a deceased wife's sister recently passed a second reading in the House of Lords by a majority of 29. Once before in the same chamber a bill of the kind was read a second time, but the Bishops rallied and defeated it when it came up for a third reading. This time, however, the majority in its favor is larger than it was or the former occasion, and as it is still warmly supported by the royal family it seems likely to secure the final approval of the upper House. Whether the bill becomes a law will depend on whether it reaches the House of Commons considerably before the date fixed for adjournment. There is no doubt about the good will of the latter body, which has fourteen times permitted the second reading of similar measures.

The Church of England stands almost alone in its inflexible opposition to marriage with a deceased wife's sister. Nominally indeed, the Church of Rome prohibits such unions, but it sometimes grants dispensations for them. Marriages of the kind are permitted in nearly every State on the continent of Europe; they have been legal for sixty years in France, and have long proved unobjectionable in Germany and Scandinavia. They are valid in every State on the continent of South America, as well as throughout the United States. There is an even stronger argument in their favor from the view-point of a British statesman. It is manifestly desirable that there should be uniformity in the marriage laws of all the British dominions. Now, marriage with a deceased wife's sister has for a considerable period been legal in Canada and in Newfoundland, in all the Australian colonies, in New Zealand, and the Cape Colony. In England itself the various sects of non-conformists regard a union of the kind without disapprobation. There is thus a tremendous preponderance of testimony from experience against the Archbishop of Canterbury's assertion that to render lawful a marriage with a deceased wife's sister would compromise the peace of families.

In a lately published book the Dean of Lichfield maintained that marriage with a deceased wife's sister was deemed by the early Church incestuous and void, according to divine law. He alleged that proof of his assertion could be found in the apostolical canons. But in the course of the debate in the House of Lords the other day Lord Herschell pointed out that what the apostolical canons really said was that a man who had married the deceased wife's sister, or his widow, should not become a cleric. If, therefore, those canons were to be relied upon as evidence of the view of the early Church, marriage with a cousin ought to be forbidden as much as marriage with a deceased wife's sister. Another argument against permitting the latter kind of marriage is that it would remove the "natural horror" which now it is said chiefly stands between men and women with a deceased wife's sister. Lord Herschell found it easy to show that for this assertion there could be no foundation, seeing that domestic life was as pure and wholesome, and as much safeguarded by the "natural horror" referred to, in Germany, Scandinavia, the United States and Canada, as it is in England.

The present bill differs from its predecessors in providing that the marriages rendered valid by the proposed act shall not be solemnized by any clergyman of the Church of England. The purpose of this provision is to relieve such clergymen from the burden of exercising an opinion in the matter. Should, therefore, the bill become a law, those desiring to avail themselves of it will have to be married before a registrar or by a nonconformist minister.

## For the Veranda.

Whatever the interior of the country house may be, it will probably be pronounced worthless and unattractive if it is not equipped with a good-sized, comfortable, cool veranda. It is hardly too much to ask that the verandah shall extend about every side of the house, that it may offer a comfortable refuge at every hour in the day.

The veranda once secured, the next question is what to put in it. The idea of converting a deep veranda into a sort of summer sitting-room is a good one if not overworked. If such an attempt is made, great care must be taken not to shut the piazza too closely by draperies and screens, and not to overload it with furnishings. The beauty of such an outdoor room is that it must be absolutely light and airy, and any contrivance that shuts out light or sunshine, or that cuts off the view of green fields or blue sky is to be discouraged.

A screen of any sort is desired, growing vines should answer the purpose admirably. A Japanese screen or curtain of slender bamboo rods is not objectionable, and if a drapery of any sort is considered necessary the furnishing should be simple, and the curtains should be so draped as to allow them to make them to make a veranda comfortable.

Veranda chairs should be roomy affairs of wicker banded with leather, which should have a cushion. Do not force summer loungers to sit upright in a narrow, straight hair; and, on the other hand, do not have them in rocking-chairs for a while, the sharp edges of the rocks are likely to cause more weariness. It is effective and practical to have one color such as bright red prominent in all the cushions and draperies.

Two or three padded chairs or tables are indispensable in a roomy veranda. One is for the magazines and summer novels, while another must be ready for the lemonade or other refreshment that veranda existence so frequently demands.

Pudding.—Is the head of the house in Young Mother—No, he's out with his nurse, or the perambulator.

## About the House.

## POINTERS ABOUT SANDWICHES.

Often when reading recipes we see mention made of things we know nothing about, and thinking them either hard to get, or very expensive, we pass the recipe with only a glance, says a writer. Reading directions for sandwiches which said: "Spread the bread with 'bechamel' sauce instead of butter," I said to myself, "Well, what is 'bechamel' sauce and where can I get it?" I made a study of the matter and now I am ready to tell those who do not know any more about it than I did.

To make the bechamel sauce, melt a tablespoonful of butter, but do not brown it. Rub a tablespoonful of flour into the butter. Add a gill of clear soup stock and a gill of cream, stirring constantly till it boils, then take from the fire and add the yolk of one egg, well beaten, and season with salt, pepper, and the juice of an onion.

For chicken sandwiches spread the bread with this and use the white meat of the chicken, sliced very thin, and sprinkled with pepper and salt for filling.

Again I read, "Strip salmon into thin slices and spread between slices of bread that have been spread with mayonnaise dressing to which a little bit of aspic jelly has been added." Aspic jelly was another unknown quantity to me, but as I did not propose to give up beaten, here is the recipe I secured: Take two onions, wash and slice them fine; add a sprig of parsley and a little salt in a pint of water. When done strain and add two dessert spoonfuls of beef extract. Return the liquor to the sauceman and add an ounce of gelatine which has been soft in a little bit of water. Let it boil up once and then simmer for twenty minutes. Strain through a bag and pour into a mold to cool. Tarragon may be used for flavoring if liked. There are more elaborate and expensive recipes for this jelly, but this one is good enough for ordinary use.

For immediate use, new bread cut very thin makes fine sandwiches, and for a rolled sandwich the bread must be new, but for general use bread that is old is the best. For game sandwiches use brown bread, dip the game, add jelly and onions with a small piece of bacon, and almost everything improved, to some tastes, by placing thin sliced cucumbers on the salmon before the upperpalice of bread is put on while an egg sandwich finely shredded lettuce or watercress is an improvement.

Posted meats are apt to be very rich, but a little lemon juice sprinkled over it relieves the heaviness. Canned salmon, sardines, and like kinds of fish can be cleaned of all skin and bones and then rubbed to a paste with lemon juice, pepper and butter, or olive oil, if that is liked.

Many thin meat, fish or fowl is at hand in sufficient quantity, but is not in good shape to use. When this is the case, either chop the pieces fine or rub them to a paste. Any kind of meat may be used, but it is better to have sandwich filling for any occasion. In this way a fine sandwich can be prepared from very unpromising looking material only so it is sweet and clean.

## PANTRY AND REFRIGERATOR.

Unless the greatest care is taken to keep pantry shelves clean during the hot summer weather, those ugly visitors—vermin, ants and flies, will make their appearance, and they are extremely difficult to exterminate.

Where food is kept a weekly scrubbing and scouring is absolutely necessary. It matters not whether each article of food will have separate receptacle, for there will come crumbs, sugar, tea, etc., on the shelves, and they become sticky and dusty. Bread boxes, and, in fact, all food receptacles should be subjected to a occasional cleaning in order to avoid any mouldy or musty odors.

Even greater care should be given refrigerator and ice chests. Here the house-maid is apt to let signs of eat, meal, and round, which makes every head and English, and round and green giddy.

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