

MARRIAGE IN JAPAN.

ANCIENT CEREMONIALS STILL IN VOGUE EVERYWHERE.

Grooms of Twenty, Usually Wed Maids of Sixteen—Engagements Are of Short Duration and Quite Informal.

Tokyo (Japan) Special. A Japanese marriage is essentially a business transaction, and its celebration is remarkable for a total absence of sentiment of any kind. There is nothing characteristic of a religious ceremony about it. It is regarded by all concerned merely as a civil contract, and the presence of a priest is deemed quite unnecessary even by the most devout worshippers of Buddha.

All preparations for a marriage are undertaken by the friends of both parties, and the couple themselves are about the last persons whose advice is sought. The engagement which precedes the marriage is of short duration. Such a thing as an engagement ring is quite unknown. In its place the young man gives his betrothed a rich sash of colored silk. The giving of presents is quite a curious feature of the engagement. These are given so lavishly that when the time comes to set up housekeeping the young couple find their resources almost exhausted. A bride receives no dowry, but she is provided instead with a trousseau and the necessary household furniture. Embroidered silks take the place of jewelry, which latter is not worn by the women of Japan.

On the momentous day the bride almost conceals her face under a thick coating of paint, and, in company with the bridegroom and all relations, goes to have the marriage legally registered in the office of the kocho, or mayor of the town. The real celebration commences in the evening, when the wedding feast takes place. This feast is more like a dinner-party than anything else. Its chief features being the changing of garments and the drinking of enormous quantities of a rice-wine known as sake.

When dusk is falling the bride is taken to the house of her father-in-law in a palanquin, escorted by a little procession



WHEN DUSK IS FALLING. (Taking Japanese Bride to House of Her Father-in-Law.)

carrying Chinese lanterns. The bride's relatives take their seats in one end of the principal apartment, while the bridegroom's friends sit opposite. The bride, dressed entirely in white, is led into the room by two richly-attired young girls. The bridegroom, who has already taken a seat in the middle of the room, makes no sign of recognition, but keeps his eyes fixed on the ground, while the bride seats herself opposite him. A table is then drawn forward, on which is placed a double-spouted kettle filled with hot sake.

Another table, loaded with eatables, is placed before each person, and the feast begins. The two girls who escorted the bride into the room hand cups of sake to the guests, who are expected to drain them to the dregs for luck.

After this ceremony the bride and bridegroom retire for a short time to change their costumes. When they return the two bridesmaids fill three cups with sake, and hand them to the bride and her parents-in-law. Three cups are imbibed by the father-in-law, who then gives the vessel to the bride. She in her turn drinks three cups, and receives a present from his hands. Another course, usually rice or fish, is now brought forward, and the bride goes through the same ceremony of drinking with the bridegroom's mother, afterwards receiving another present. A thin soup is then served, and three more cups of wine are drunk all round.

Then comes the great event of the evening. This is the most sacred sake drinking by the married couple, which appears to constitute a kind of marriage service. The bridesmaids bring forward the double-spouted kettle and present it to the lips of the married pair. These drink alternately from it until its contents have been exhausted, the act being emblematical of the way in which they intend to share one another's joys and sorrows.

When the happy couple have partaken of the sake kettle the ceremony is at an end. So well versed are the bride, bridegroom and relations in their roles that the whole affair passes off quite silently. There is no confusion. Each person knows what is expected of him, and does it in a mechanical way that gives the proceedings an air of monotony. After the marriage the bride continues to live in her father-in-law's house; for it is an almost invariable rule that a wedded couple shall dwell during their first months of married life at the house of the bridegroom's father.

Australia's Public Debt. Australia's public debt averages \$278 for every man, woman and child in the country; that of the United States is only \$11 for each person.

BOOMLET FOR ALSCHULER.

Eastern Managers Would Like to Have Illinois Man Nominated for Vice President.

Chicago Special. Eastern reports of the inner workings in national democratic politics continue to link the name of Samuel Alschuler, of Chicago, with the vice presidential candidacy. It is argued as a matter of party policy that Alschuler is the most available candidate for the second highest office in the gift of the people.

Because he has diplomatically managed to keep out of the rival democratic factions in Illinois, it is assumed that he would be the best man to smooth any element of discord. His attitude toward labor has been such, it is claimed, as would receive the undivided support of the working classes.

Mr. Alschuler's record as political timber is also counted in his favor. In



SAMUEL ALSCHULER. (Illinois Democratic Leader Who May Run for Vice President.)

1900 he ran 15,905 votes ahead of Bryan in the state, and in Cook county he beat Gov. Yates, his republican opponent, by a plurality of 7,573 votes.

Samuel Alschuler is a native of Illinois. He was born in Chicago November 20, 1859. He is a bachelor. His parents, Jacob and Caroline Alschuler, moved to Aurora, his present residence, in 1861. After clerking in a general store, young Alschuler studied law, and in 1881 he was admitted to the bar. Today he is considered not only a powerful orator, but an able lawyer. He was state commissioner of claims from 1898 to 1899, when he was elected to the legislature, which place he held for four years.

"I know nothing of these rumors beyond what I read in the papers," said Mr. Alschuler when asked if he was a candidate for vice president. "I have no idea where these accounts emanate, for I have never talked to any one on the subject in any way which would give the impression that I presume to seek the office."

PUBLIC LIKES MISS ALICE.

President Roosevelt's Daughter Has Warm Place in the Affections of Washingtonians.

Washington (D. C.) Special. Miss Alice Roosevelt, the charming daughter of the president, called by some dyspeptic newspaper scribblers "Princess Alice," is unquestionably one of the most lovable girls of her age at the capital. Recently she suffered from an attack of German measles, and the interest which the public took in her illness proved beyond a doubt that the young lady has a warm place in the affections of the people. Miss Alice is per-



MISS ALICE ROOSEVELT. (Daughter of President and Leader of Washington's Younger Set.)

haps not as diplomatic as she might be, but it must be remembered that she is just now passing through that peculiar period of a girl's life when there is but little to learn. If the women who criticize her would just think for a moment of their own young womanhood days, they would be more charitable and quite ready to admit that Miss Alice, every thing considered, is displaying a remarkable amount of tact.

New Plays Tried in Country.

It is often the practice of theatrical managers to try a new play in country towns before producing it in the metropolis. A well-known manager was asked the reason. "Because," said the manager, "we know that if a rural town will stand a show without killing the company, New York is likely to be perfectly delighted with it."

Danger in Transfer Slips.

Street car conductors in New York city are required to serve their transfer tickets dry. That is, they must not moisten with their mouths the fingers which tear off a ticket from a packet, just before giving it to a passenger. It is asserted that transfer tickets thus moistened spread disease.

GREAT CLOSED LAND.

AS SUCH THIBET IS KNOWN AMONG ASIATIC.

British Are Now Trying to Conquer the Mysterious Country of the Fanatical Lamas and Magicians.

London (Eng.) Special. The news dispatches of the last few weeks telling of the attempts of the British force under Col. Younghusband to enter Thibet have been somewhat overshadowed by the details of the larger conflict in Asia, which at the present moment is the cynosure of the eyes of the civilized world.

China, Manchuria, Japan and Russia to the ordinary lay reader mean something concrete, something which even the most casual geographical student can understand. Thibet, "the great closed island," on the other hand; Thibet, the unknown, the isolated, the mysterious, is something which the great world at large looks upon with whimsical disinterestedness.

Nomads by inclination and by necessity, practically every male in Thibet is a soldier, and as they gain a greater part of their livelihood from brigandage and hostile forays, one tribe against another, it may properly be said that their entire existence is given up to unremitting warfare.

Should England succeed eventually in her purpose to add Thibet to her Atlantic domains, anyone who has ever been in Thibet can well ask: "What will she secure as compensation for this tremendous outlay of men and money?" All explorers in Thibet agree that the natural resources of the country are infinitesimal and that nothing of concrete value ever can be secured to repay for the enormous expenditure necessary to prompt from nature something which she will not yield even if strenuously urged.

British statesmen argue that Thibet will serve as the great "buffer" to Russia's expansive ambition in the east, and the fact that most impresses any Thibetan traveler who has toiled for weary months at a halting pace through these



NATURAL CASTLE IN THIBET. (Rugged Fortification Encountered by British Expedition.)

barren and inhospitable wilds is that Thibet left to herself would dampen even Russian ardor for expansion.

For scientists and geographers the opening of Thibet will mean much. The secrets of the mysterious city of Lassa, which has defied all attempts of white explorers to reach it, will be laid bare. Practically the last of the great unknown tracts of the habitable globe will disappear, and with the subsequent spread of civilization and humanizing influences will in turn disappear the curious features of one of the strangest races of the world.

As is natural to suppose, the features of the landscape are reflected in the natives themselves. As a race they are a dirty and filthy lot of the most degraded savages, building no substantial dwellings, except among the agricultural tribes in the eastern districts bordering on the Chinese frontier, but with their herds of yak and horses wandering over the country, living in small tents made of yak skins or in cave dwellings. By nature the Thibetan is a glutton and will eat wherever and whenever opportunity presents itself.

Both men and women are ugly, with huge features. They have great faith in the pernicious habit of disfiguring themselves with paint and strange tattoo marks and cicatrices. There is no settled form of government outside of the unstable hierarchy at Lassa, the constitution of society everywhere being simple. Almost every crime is condoned by payment, this leniency causing a brutality and bloody license which provoke long protracted feuds and wars. Life is held in little if any esteem and is taken upon the least compunction.

The real curse of Thibet, however, is the powerful lama hierarchy. These clergymen form nearly one-third of the entire population of the country and are rulers in substance if not in name. Magic, charms, fetich, rosaries and other "mystical" emblems constitute the main features of the cult of lama Buddhism. One of the most peculiar features of the Thibetan religious side of life is the prayer wheel. It forms a strange sight indeed to watch the Thibetans going about their daily avocations monotonously, and by practice apparently unconsciously, twisting these instruments. The worship of deceased ancestors is carried on among all tribes, the natives at different periods digging up the bones of these illustrious forebearers and religiously washing them.

Ostriches in the Antipodes.

Ostriches are being successfully reared in Australia. They produce magnificent white feathers, as much as 27 inches in length and 15 inches in width. The first birds were imported from Africa.

TOGO, NELSON OF JAPAN.

Admiral in Charge of Port Arthur Blockading Squadron Highly Esteemed at Home.

Tokyo (Japan) Special. Vice Admiral Hehatchi Togo, "the Nelson of Japan," is here shown from his latest photograph. The picture was taken at Tokio, just before the breaking out of hostilities. Admiral Togo is the hero of the campaign thus far. He is a true-blooded Japanese, being a so-called Satsuma Samurai. He was born October 14, 1857, and was educated in England on board the Worcester, a ship belonging to the Thames Nautical Training college. He served two years on board this vessel. During that time his conduct was reported to be excellent and his ability very good. During the Chino-Japanese war Togo commanded the cruiser Naniwa, and at the opening of hostilities sank the troop-



ADMIRAL HEHATCHI TOGO. (Commander of the Japanese Fleet Investing Port Arthur.)

ship Kowshing, which was laden with Chinese troops. A curious fact in connection with this event was that the Kowshing was commanded by Capt. Galsworthy, who also had received his training on board the Worcester. When the Kowshing was sunk Galsworthy was nearly drowned, but his life was saved by Togo who sent a boat to rescue him. After the Chinese war Togo was raised to the rank of rear admiral, and promoted to be third in command of the mikado's fleet. Prior to his present appointment he was commander at Maluru dockyard on the Sea of Japan. Togo is described as being reserved in manner, and he is cool, resolute, determined, very courageous, at the same time being calm and unprecipitate in action. He is said to know his fleet well—knows what it can do to a nicety—and his operations at Port Arthur have shown that his conception of conditions has been wonderfully exact.

ADMIRAL JESSEN'S DASH.

Commander of Vladivostok Squadron Hailed as a Hero by the People of Russia.

Seoul (Korea) Special. The only Russian naval commander who has thus far achieved any kind of success is Rear Admiral Jessen, commander of the Vladivostok fleet, who recently left his home base and made a raid on the harbor of Gensan, Korea, which is about 300 miles away from Vladivostok. The admiral's ships destroyed several steamers and one transport belonging to the enemy and then returned to Vladivostok. It may be taken for granted that Japan will not permit a repetition of the Gensan raid and that here-



REAR ADMIRAL JESSEN. (Russian Commander Who Led the Raid on Gensan, Korea.)

after Admiral Jessen's four ships will be watched closely.

Admiral Jessen is not a particularly well-known figure in Russian naval circles. He is, however, a personal friend of Gen. Kuropatkin, commander of the Russian land forces in the far east, and has the reputation of being a good fighter. It is reported that, in spite of his bold dash, he will be retired upon the arrival of Admiral Skrydloff at Port Arthur.

Onion Stuck in Her Ear.

Ethel Root, of Philadelphia, Pa., 22 years old, found a pungent piece of onion an effective cure for earache, but it also necessitated her going to the Samaritan hospital to get rid of the cure. She had suffered severely from the pain in her ear, and on the advice of a friend tied a piece of onion against the ear cavity by means of a bandage about her head. The application so much relieved her that she hesitated to remove it lest the pain return. When she took the bandage off the onion could not be removed and she had to go out to the Samaritan hospital, where Dr. Carpenter extracted it.

The Insect Bell of Japan.

A natural curiosity of Japan is the "insect bell." It is a black beetle, which emits harmonious sounds like those of a little silver bell.

NORTH DAKOTA NEWS

Swindlers. Homeseekers in the west, notably in the Dakotas and Utah, are being swindled by companies recently organized, according to a statement made public at the United States geological survey today.

"These sharpers," says the statement, "have selected as easy victims prospective homeseekers who are greatly interested in the various reclamation projects undertaken by the government. By means of advertisements cleverly worded, in which they claim to have secured inside information regarding the plans of the engineers, and by the display of alleged copies of government maps and surveys, they have been successful in duping many unwary homeseekers. For a consideration of from \$50 to \$100 these swindlers guarantee to locate settlers upon the best irrigable lands under the government works." The officials make it plain that the "companies" have no information that cannot be obtained by any one who will take the trouble to apply for it at the geological survey. The statement concludes as follows: "When the proper time comes for throwing open to homestead entry the lands under the great irrigation projects, the secretary of the interior will give due notice through the public press. Until such announcement is made it will not be safe to locate upon these lands."

Aged Homesteader.

Homesteading a claim at the age of ninety-one is the new record made by Preston S. Morrison, a Michigan man, who has just filed on a quarter-section in North Dakota. Not content with this, Mr. Morrison will buy two sections of land and embark in the horse business on a big scale. He is unusually active and does not show his age, appearing no older than a man of fifty. He was born on the Atlantic coast in March, 1813. He is a veteran of the Mexican and the Civil wars, and claims he never had a sick day or missed a meal. He has been temperate in all things. He used tobacco up to ten years ago, when he stopped smoking because he felt it disagreed with him. Before coming west he was a resident of Elyria, Ohio.

Enjoined.

General W. D. Washburn was served with an injunction issued from the district court of this district restraining him from transferring the Washburn road to the Soo Line, pending settlement of the claims of J. F. Philbrick and A. T. Patterson, local attorneys, who are suing for \$1,800 alleged to be due them as attorneys' fees in obtaining the right of way for the road several years ago. R. N. Stevens appears as attorney for Patterson and Philbrick.

The Boy Came Back.

Herman Underdahl, aged 14, of Towner, turned up missing one day last week, and his people were at a loss to know what had become of him. Four days later he turned up and said that in company with several other boys he had climbed on box cars, expecting to jump before the train reached a high speed. The other boys did so, but the door of the car in which he was became fastened, and he was carried on to Minot. He had no money and beat his way back as far as Granville, and from there he walked home.

Rats Cause Fire.

It is believed that rats dragging matches into a hole in the basement of a Jamestown grocery store was the cause of what might have been a disastrous fire. The basement was found filled with smoke at a late hour at night and the origin seemed to be in an old piece of burlap that had been drawn into a rat hole and with which phosphorus from matches had probably come in contact.

Attacked by Wolves.

L. P. Stafford, of Buffalo, had quite an experience with two timber wolves. He was out plowing when the two wolves attacked his bird dog. The dog ran to Mr. Stafford for protection, but the wolves caught him about six feet from the plow and chewed him up before L. P., who had nothing but a monkey wrench, could drive them away.

Fire by Lightning.

The first fire by lightning reported in the state this year was on the farm of Otto Beecher, near Ryder, in Ward county. Lightning struck the fence wires and following the wires to where they were down and there the grass was set on fire. Fortunately there was no wind and the fire went out.

News Notes.

Two miles of trench are being excavated at Oakes for the acetylene gas mains.

Work has been begun on the foundation of the new Monarch elevator at Brismade.

The Dickinson Brick company is shipping cars of its products all over the northwest.

Underwood is to have a twenty thousand dollar flour mill this summer.

The Lockhart offices in Fargo were entered and robbed. The keys had been left in the desk, but the burglars paid no attention to this, but pried the lid off with a shovel. The damage done to the furniture was greater than the amount stolen.

The little town of Empire, Cavalier county, does not permit cattle to wander loose on its streets, and impounds such as are found at large.

Charles Bapp's general store at Niagara was burned. The fire was presumably incendiary. Loss, \$10,000.

Stock is being sold in a farmers' elevator company at McKinney.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

For the Week Ending May 14.

Col. Henry B. B. Bristol, U. S. A. (retired), is dead.

The Farmers' State bank at Nardin, O. T., failed. Assets and liabilities not given.

The steamer Doric, arriving in San Francisco from the orient, brought \$2,250,000 gold from Japan.

Brig. Gen. Peter T. Swaine, U. S. A. (retired), is dead at his home at Los Nietos, Cal., aged 74 years.

Russia has decided to make an exhibit at the St. Louis exposition and reserved 20,000 square feet of space.

A jury at Sherman, Tex., gave Louis James, the actor, a judgment for \$10,000 against the Oriental hotel association, of Dallas, Tex., for libel.

Two mills of the Schaghticoke Powder company were blown up near Troy, N. Y. Two employes were killed and many buildings demolished.

The restaurant belonging to John Ziegler, at Rochester, Minn., was destroyed by fire, and the head waiter, Emma Damvi, lost her life.

Congressman Henry McMorran, of Port Huron, was renominated by acclamation at the republican convention of the Seventh Michigan district.

Secretary Taft has appointed Charles S. Lobingier a judge of the court of first instance in the Philippines. The appointee is a young lawyer of Omaha, Neb.

John Brown, under arrest at Dickenson, N. D., charged with the murder of his 12-year-old son while in a fit of anger. The father buried the boy immediately.

South Trimble was renominated for congress on the two-hundred and ninth ballot by the democrats of the seventh Kentucky district with a single vote to spare.

The firm of Whitney, Pousland & Co., leading commission merchants of Boston, filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy with liabilities of \$111,908 and assets of \$163.

While the rumor that a revolution has broken out in Hayti is false, there is general discontent in the republic, and a revolution is momentarily looked for.

Robert M. Furman, aged 67 years, editor of the Raleigh Morning Post, died at Beaufort, N. C., where he had gone in search of health. The cause of death was heart failure.

The gross postal receipts for April, 1904, at the 50 largest post offices in the country, as compared with April, 1903, aggregated \$5,830,819, a net increase of \$439,658, or over eight per cent.

Rear Admiral Albert Sewall Kenney (retired), formerly paymaster general of the navy, is stated at the navy department, has been selected as treasurer of the Panama canal commission.

George W. Lederer, the theatrical manager, New York, filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy. He states his known liabilities as \$170,975, with assets of \$100. He specifies 234 creditors.

The seat of H. Archibell on the New York stock exchange has been sold for the reported price of \$60,500. This is about \$5,500 under the last price obtained for a stock exchange membership.

Sympathetic strikes of the women binders, blankbook binders and rulers in Chicago are promised by union officials, if effort is made to run the shops with nonunion binders, a strike being on.

Alfred Bissell, a veteran of the Mexican and civil wars, died at Oregon City, Ore., aged 80. Mr. Bissell was a delegate from Illinois to the convention that first nominated Lincoln for the presidency.

In a wreck at Hope Mills, N. C., on the Atlantic Coast Line Engineer Byer was killed and the fireman fatally injured. Twelve cars were demolished. The wreck was caused by the engine jumping the track.

Mrs. Robert J. Burdette, of California, has advised friends in St. Louis that she will not allow her name to appear as a candidate for president of the National Federation of Women's clubs, which convenes in St. Louis May 17.

Testimony was begun at Rising Sun, Ind., in the trial of James Gillespie, Mrs. Belle Seward and Mr. and Mrs. Barbour, for the murder of Elizabeth Gillespie, with the mother of the victim and two of the defendants as the first witness.

THE MARKETS.

New York, May 14.	
LIVE STOCK—Steers.....	45 @ 55
Hogs, Stock.....	20 @ 30
Sheep, Clipped.....	40 @ 50
FLOUR—Minn. Patents.....	5 00 @ 5 25
WHEAT—July.....	85 1/2 @ 89 1/2
—September.....	85 1/2 @ 89 1/2
CORN—May.....	56 1/2 @ 56 3/4
RYE—No. 2 Western.....	62 1/2 @ 70
BUTTER.....	15 @ 11
CHEESE.....	9 @ 11
EGGS.....	13 1/4 @ 20 1/4
CHICAGO.	
CATTLE—Fancy Beves.....	45 @ 50
—Fed Texas Steers.....	15 @ 45
—Medium Beef Steers.....	40 @ 40
—Heavy Steers.....	5 15 @ 5 50
—Calves.....	2 25 @ 2 25
HOGS—Assorted Light.....	4 65 @ 4 80
—Heavy Packing.....	4 65 @ 4 80
—Heavy Mixed.....	4 65 @ 4 80
SHEEP.....	4 00 @ 4 50
BUTTER—Creamery.....	12 @ 18 1/2
—Dairy.....	11 1/2 @ 11
EGGS—Fresh.....	15 @ 15 1/2
POTATOES (per bu.).....	88 @ 110
MESS PORK—Cash.....	11 05 @ 11 10
LARD—Cash.....	6 25 @ 6 30
GRAIN—Wheat, May.....	90 1/2 @ 91
—Corn, May.....	47 1/2 @ 48
—Oats, May.....	41 1/2 @ 42
—Barley Feed, May.....	35 @ 37
—Rye, May.....	70 @ 72
MILWAUKEE.	
GRAIN—Wheat, No. 1 North.....	97 @ 97 1/2
—Corn, July.....	47 1/2 @ 47 1/2
—Oats, Standard.....	44 1/2 @ 45
—Rye, No. 1.....	75 1/2 @ 76
KANSAS CITY.	
GRAIN—Wheat, May.....	85 @ 85 1/2
—Wheat, July.....	74 @ 74 1/2
—Corn, May.....	47 1/2 @ 47 1/2
—Oats, No. 2 White.....	42 @ 42 1/2
ST. LOUIS.	
CATTLE—Beef Steers.....	40 @ 52 1/2
—Texas Steers, Grass.....	3 50 @ 3 75
HOGS—Packers.....	4 20 @ 4 30
—Butchers, Best Heavy.....	70 @ 70
SHEEP—Natives.....	4 25 @ 5 50
OMAHA.	
CATTLE—Native Steers.....	40 @ 50
—Stockers and Feeders.....	3 00 @ 4 20
—Cows and Heifers.....	3 25 @ 4 40
HOGS—Wethers, Shorn.....	4 60 @ 4 75
SHEEP—Wethers, Shorn.....	4 50 @ 5 20