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Statistics and Courtship.

A person of a tatistical turn of mind has been delving into a somewhat romantic domain for one of his practical bent. He has compiled statisties that cannot fail to prove interesting. Eighty-one out of 100 men, he avers, vowed they could not live any longer without the adored ones; 72 held the ladies' hands in a tight grip; 60 kissed them on the lips, 10 on the right hand, two on the tip of the nose and one on the shoulder; 18 were so excited that they could hardly speak; 26 lost their eloquence through certain qualms of conscience; 12 said in deep chest tones, "Thank God," and eight frankly admitted that they were inexpressibly happy.

By studying the conduct of 100 men whose suits were rejected the statistician obtained the following equally interesting figures; Forty of them rushed in a frenzy out of the room; 21 of them said that life henceforth had no more value in their eyes, and that they would commit suicide; 14 became suddenly tongue-tied and irrational; six calmly resigned themselves to the inevitable; five avowed their intention to immediately emigrate to America; three tore out some of their hair; two bit their lips till blood came, one stuck his hands in his pockets' and whistled a popular song, and another looked up toward Heaven and began to say the

Lord's Prayer. Of the ladies 87 per cent. knew beforehand that the proposals were about to be made to them. Seventy of them sank as though embarrassed into the arms of the loved ones, and only four fell gently down on a chair or sofa. Fourteen covered their blushing faces with their hands, eight threw ther arms passionately around the neeks of the men. Two said "Please speak to mamma," and

One, who was 48 years old protested vigorously against giving or receiving a kiss. Another who was about the same age, said, "Yes you may kiss me, but you must do it in a gentlemanly manner." Such, then, are some of the ways in which proposals are made and received. The study is an interesting one, and in several ways should prove especially instructive to members of the fair

said to be 2,000 years old has been usual accumulation of moss. But I I'd want full swing. And if I got it smile. brought up from the sea bottom off fancy my turn will come yet.' Beachy head by a Brighton sea oyster dredger.

### Poetry.

THE MIDNIGHT HOUR.

It seems to me the choice of all the twenty-

Which follow silently in one another's steps Our hearts to gladden, yet they oftimes make it sore.

At midnight all my daily toils are o'er, I rest secure from all that me annoys, dream of all the past, the present and the

future yet to be, And think of all my sorrows, fears and joys ometimes I read. How many precious gem

I've added to my little crown of truth, By reading, reading through that sweetly, happy hour,

Thus moulding true my strongly passioned Oftimes I pass this hour with pen in hand.

Directing words of love to a playmate far writing down my thoughts, as I am doing

Or copying from a learned page, what some learned heart did say.

re learned this hour to welcome, for to sooth All petty cares which may perplex my soul h! midnight, precious, precious hour, How much you do my character to mould. LONA J. BELYEA.

### Literature.

# MORGAN'S INVESTIGATION

The train was about to start, and the young man who had just arisen from his seat beside a young woman in the day coach was turning away when a tall young man came np the

'Why, it's Morgan!' cried the first young man with a quick hand clasp. 'How's Jim. 'Here' he quickly added 'take this seat and entertain my cousin in the best way you know how Miss Eilington, Mr. Morgan. Good bye.' And he hustled out just as the train began to move.

'Rather unceremonious,' laughed Morgan, as he paused beside the seat and looked inquiringly at the girl. 'It's Arthur's way,' she smilingly

said. 'Won't you sit down?' And Morgan, as he bowed and took the seat, noticed that this was a remarkably attractive girl.

'I haven't seen Arthur before for a year or two,' he said. 'We were in college together and great chums, but as usual drifted apart. What is he doing now?

'Just now he is threatening to settle down,' said the girl. 'An indulgent mother has made life very pleasant for him since he came out of college. He has been abroad, you know, and out to California, and down to Florida, and he has his shooting in the Adirondacks, and his automobile trips, and-well, his time has been quite taken up.'

James Morgan shook his head.

'I don't like that,' he said. 'Arthur has good stuff in him. At least, I always thought so. Besides, I don't like the idea of his taking these favors from a woman.'

'Not even from his mother?'

'No. The principle is the same. I can understand that a rich father might want to broaden his son's views by travel and by association with widely different classes of humanity, but with a rich mother it would simply be a desire to pamper and please. Besides, I don't believe for you, Mr Morgan. that true men accept favors from

The girl beside him smilingly opened her eyes.

'That's rather old fashioned, isn't it?' she asked. 'This is the twentieth century, you know. The world, the last trolley car.' or at least our part of it, seems to think that woman is quite on an equality with men in most respects, and that in financial and business matters the question of sex does not

'I know,' he said. 'And I admit that I am old-fashioned about it. But it grates sadly on my ideas of chivalry to know that a man is under obligations to a woman for his daily bread or even for his salary. That sounds a little preachy, doesn't it?' and he laughed as he caught the girl's amused look.

'And you think it would be quite too humiliating for a man to accept employment from a woman?'

'That's the way I look at it,' laughed Morgan.

'Perhaps yeu have had some very judiced you?' the girl suggested.

to South America to help build a a paying basis inside of three railroad, and a revolution drove us months. out. Was assistant superintendent of a Montana mine and a consolidation froze us out. Was foreman of the Acme Stamping Company when the treasurer wrecked it. You see A Roman bowl of Samian make, I'm quite a rolling stone, with the he said. If I had that plant in charge

asking merely to discover what your laughed a little as he said this. 'I quite a remarkable display of dim- like that.' ples. 'I fancy you will find her quite spare the time.'

said Morgan.

ness there ?

Monticello.'

gency. I am going to inspect a known. manufacturing property there at the request of several capitalists, who contemplate buying it. If my report report isn't favorable I am out of a | ver.' job again.' He laughed. 'You see that integrity in business is sometimes put to severe strain.'

inquired.

they should be pensioned off. From all I can hear it wants an infusion of how can this interest you!'

'Why, it does,' smiled the girl. I'm acquainted in Monticello and think I my way to visit an aunt, who lives far apart, and may meet again. I are impressed.'

'Impressed?' repeated Morgan. 'By the factory-and the girls.'

Morgan echoed her merry laugh. 'I fancy the first will keep me quite too busy to think of the second.'

stay in Monticello ?" I suppose my work will keep me

for at least two weeks.' 'Then I am quite sure we will meet again. Ah, there's the whistle for Monticello.

gan arose, and he murmured something about the pleasure of meeting love the work. her, and did it with a clumsiness that must have amused her, and a moment later stood on the platform ed it for many days. watching the receding train.

She was a charming girl, there was no doubt about that. He was almost sorry he had met her. It would distract his mind from his business. And how she had drawn him out. himself. He must forget her.

He had been in Monticello a little over a week, and was just leaving the factory one afternoon when a carriage approached. There were two ladies in it, and one of them was bowing. It was Miss Ellington. He returned the salute, and the driver

up to the curb. the girl as she put out her hand. 'Auntie, Mr Morgan. My aunt, Mrs Maynard. Auntie has an invitation

'I want to take you home with us and have you stay to dinner,' said the elderly lady. 'We have been waiting for a fine day so that you could enjoy the drive. And we'll promise to send you back safely on

She was a charming lady with such a winning air that quite before he realized what he was doing Morgan had accepted the invitation. He murmured something about the state of his toilet, and the necessity for pronounced him quite au fait, adding that he need not worry as he was to be the only guest,

And so James Morgan took the seat facing the ladies and began what proved to be a most delightful drive. 'And how fares the investigation?' inquired the girl.

'Along which line?' laughed Mor-

'You led me to believe that you had time to pursue but one line,' said the girl.

'True,' said Morgan. 'It is the seunpleasant experience that has pre- rious line that I have been following up. And it turns out just as I had 'No,' said Morgan. The fact is, I expected. There has been mismanknow very little about women, I mean agement and carelessness. It apthe modern woman. I was a country pears that the head of the concern boy and never saw a city until I went | died some time ago and the comto college. Ours wasn't a co-educa- pany's affairs are in new and evidenttional university, and, anyway, I was ly incompetent hands. Nobody at quite too busy to think of the girls. the factory seems to know much Since I left college I've been knock. about this, but I fancy it speaks for ing about in and out of the way itself. If an up-to-date hustler had places where women never go. Went charge of that plant he'd put it on

> The girl looked at him a little curiously.

'Yourself, for instance?'

Morgan laughed.

'I had myself in view when I spoke,' I'd guarantee to return the Russell-'And may I inquire what your next Bemis Company seven per cent on pany,' she said. venture is to be ?' said the girl. 'I'm | their investment the first year.' He | 'You ?'

chances are for your meeting the can afford to be egotistical,' he addwoman of to-day. She laughed with ed. 'It takes a pull to get a place

And there the subject dropped. an interesting study when you can There were other subjects, however, to take up, and both Miss Ellington emphasis that you would not accept Morgan turned and looked at her. and her aunt were delightful talkers, a salary from a woman as an incor-'I begin to think so,' he said. Then and Morgan told them some of his poration company.' he hastily looked away. 'Oh, yes, experiences in the wilds of the two my next venture? I'm going to continents, and something about his college life, and the time passed very 'That's not very promising ground.' pleasantly. There was a charming 'It may be from my point of view,' dinner and a pleasant chat in the library, and when Morgan was com-'Then you think of going into busi- ing home on the last trolley car he told himself that it had been the 'It depends upon a certain contin- most delightful evening he had ever

Two days later he received a telegram. It was brief, but to the point. 'Deal off. Company will not conis favorable they will take it. If the sider proposition. Send in bill. Cul-

When Morgan went to pay his ton-Edith, will you be my wife?' hotel bill he found a letter awaiting 'But how does it happen that this the Russell-Beamis Company. He the clear eyes showed no sign of factory is in the market?' the girl hastily tore it open. It was an offer surprise. of the superintendency of the Monti-'Bad management is the root of the | cello plant, salary and other details trouble,' replied Morgan. It's a big to be arranged later. If the place concern with all the improvements, was accepted, he was asked to wire but there's too much old blood in the city office and take charge at control. Too many old retainers of once. The letter, couched in strictthe house are puttering around when ly business terms, was signed 'Phineas Ranney, trustee.'

Three days later Morgan was hard youthful ginger into its affairs. But at work. The trustee, a shrewdold lawyer, had brought down the contract, the salary was arranged, and Morgan was devoting every energy know the factory you mean. I am on to putting the plant on a paying basis. It was hard work, very hard at Millington, the next station be- work, but his toil was lightened by yond Monticello. We will not be his visit to the home of Miss Ellington's aunt. They had become quite am a little anxious to know how you regular visits now, and the more he saw of Edith Ellington the more charming she appeared. She had such a sympathetic way with her, and seemed so interested in his work.

'But why should you exhaust all your energies for people whom you 'And how long do you propose to do not know, and who undoubtedly look upon you as a mere machine?' sne asked him one day.

He laughed in his boyish way. 'I don't think of them at all,' he said. 'I am working on honor, you know. My professional reputation is She put out her slim hand as Mor- at stake. I've made promises and I mean to carry them out. Besides I

> 'And at that the girl gave him such a delightful smile that he remember-

'He had been in charge of the Russell-Beamis plant for perhaps ten months, when on a certain Sunday afternoon he said, in response to Edith's usual inquiries about the factory, that it would be well for the Why, he had talked of nothing but management to send a good man abroad to enlarge the company's

'We can double our output,' he said and at very little advance in expenses, and I know the European market is just hungering for our goods.' He laughed, 'I'd like to go myself for a three months' trip. I could get away at a word from the elder lady, drew as well as not. Everything is running smoothly, and young Fallon is quite 'Glad to see you, Mr Morgan,' said | competent to carry out my orders.' 'And the trip would give you a

> rest,' said Edith Ellington. 'I hadn't thought of that,' laughed Morgan. 'But I am quite willing to guarantee again that I will make it a decidedly profitable rest for the

company.' On the following Thursday the superintendent received a telegram asking him to report the next morn- a most helpful exercise for hands liing at the Company's city office. He abl to become stiff from the complaint, found Lawyer Phineas Ranny at his and it is being prescribed by physi-

his dry and yet not unpleasant way. ing up the hands of such suffers. For 'Sit down, Mr Morgan,' he said, 'I've just been looking over your last statement. Very good, sir, very that character knitting is regarded going to his hotel, but the old lady good. You've done admirably, sir, as a most beneficial exercise. Beadmirably.' He paused and smiled. sides the simple work is said to be an 'That's a good deal of praise coming excellent diversion for the nerves from me, sir.'

to live up to my agreement.' 'We appreciate it,' said the old lawyer,' and we've been thinking it over and have come to the conclusion that it would be a good idea, now that things are running smoothly, to send you over to Europe, say for three months, with the idea of opening up a foreign market for our goods. What do you think of the

Morgan stared hard at the old man. 'It's an excellent idea,' he said. 'Very well, then,' said the old man. You can arrange things so as to start the middle of next month.'

'Very well sir,' said Morgan. The old man looked at him.

'By the way,' he said, 'The Russell-Beamis Company would like to meet you in the private office. That's the door, step right in.'

A lady was sitting at the desk. She looked around as he entered. 'Why Edith-Miss Ellington,' Mor-

gan stammered. 'This is an unexpected pleasure. I was told I would find the Russell-Beamis Company

The girl looked up with a roguish 'I am the Russell-Beamis Com-

He sank into a chair. - He was

quite dazed. Wh-why didn't you tell me?' he

stammered. 'Do you remember that you said, and with considerable unnecessary

Edith Ellington laughed merrily. 'Well,' she said, 'you will understand that I took your remark so seriously that I bound you with a contract before I told you the truth.'

Morgan suddenly arose. 'Miss Ellington,' he said, 'this unexpected revelation may make a great difference in my hopes and my aspirations. I cannot wait for time to tell. I am going to say to you what I had intended to say when courage and a proper sense of my own deserving came to me.' He moved a step nearer. 'Miss Elling-

There was a soft flush on the fair him. The letter bore the imprint of face that was upturned to him, but

'But your duties, your trip abroad?' she softly said.

He came still nearer. 'We will make it our wedding journey he said.

A sunny smile played across the upturned face. 'The Russell-Beamis Company takes Superintendent Morgan's suggestion under advisement,' she gravely said. 'I-I think I may go

cordially accepts it and she put out both hands. 'And now,' she said a moment later, 'will the superintendent kindly take the company out to luncheon?'

so far as to say that it—that she—

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pleased to say a word for it." Knitting is declared by specialists in the treatment of rheumatism to be desk and the old man greeted him in cians because of its efficacy in limberpersons liable to cramp, paralysis or any other affections of the fingers of and is recommended to women suf-'Thank you,' said Morgan. I tried fering from insomnia and depression. In certain sanitariums patients are Ink. encouraged to make use of the bright steels, and the work is so pleasant that it is much enjoyed by them.

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