

## THE LAND OF BARMAIDS

FACTS ABOUT A TYPE OF ENGLISH YOUNG WOMEN.

The Barmaids—Always Young and Good Looking—Where They Come From—Their Tact With Customers and Admirers—What Becomes of Them.

Among the thousands of tourists who are rushing over to England this season it is probable that by far the largest proportion are going there for the first time and are full of eager curiosity to see whether or not the country is anything like what they have always imagined it to be. Men and women usually go to Europe with very different anticipations. The women go to see picture galleries and churches and to price articles of personal adornment. The men go to see life, and to learn the foreign methods of painting towns red. The women have visions of Westminster Abbey and Parisian bonnets, while the men dream of the Moulin Rouge and Monte Carlo.

The observant man who visits England for the first time cannot fail to be impressed by two great English institutions which are absolutely unknown in this country. The first of these, and the one that will force itself upon his attention almost as soon as he lands, is the English chimney pot a short slender terra-cotta, which surmounts every chimney throughout the whole length and breadth of the land. If you ask any builder why these pots are placed on the chimneys, he will tell you that without them the flue would not draw. Tell him that you have no such thing in America, and yet the chimneys draw well enough, and ask him if he ever tried a chimney without a pot on it, and he will reply: 'Of course not. If I built a house without pots on the chimneys no one would rent it.' The next great institution, and the one that particularly impresses an American, is the English barmaid. Like the chimney pots, they seem to be preferred to the American style because they are supposed to draw better, although the alleged reason for employing them is that they are more honest. Any one who has had anything to do with the British workman knows that he makes a lifelong study of cheating his employer, either by 'scjering' in time at the bench or by abstracting small sums from the money drawer. Keepers of public houses think that barmaids are more honest, and they know that a pretty girl draws a certain amount of custom and tends to keep the customers that she has.

These barmaids are to be found in every grade of saloon, from the lowest 'pubs' in Whitechapel, where an American would suppose that a retired prize-fighter and professional bouncer would be more appropriate, to the most exclusive private hotels in the West End. It is the same all over England, and a pretty barmaid has often a good deal to do with attracting her patrons of what are known as commercial hotels—that is, hotels frequented by drummers. It is an old saying that the hand who pulls the beer engine goes with the face that brings the trade. As a class barmaids have two characteristics; they are always good looking and always young. If you find a woman over thirty five in attendance at an English bar, you may rest assured that she is the housekeeper and that it is the barmaid's evening out. The typical English barmaid has a round face, strong eyebrows, a firmly cut mouth, and very good teeth—signs of good sense, self-control, judgement of human nature and a cheerful disposition. She is always plainly but neatly dressed, speaks in a low well-bred voice, and has the happy faculty of being all things to all men.

Where do all these young and pretty girls come from and how do you happen to select such a business as tending bar? All rank of life have their outlets of the restless spirits. In all classes there are to be found a certain percentage of girls who are fond of life and amusement and for whom home comforts have no attraction. They are bored to death with the monotony of sewing and dishwashing. Just as some boys have a craving to go to sea instead of to business, so some girls long for a freer and wider life than nursing their little brothers and sisters. Girls of the middle classes who have the advantage of a good education usually go upon the stage if they are good looking enough; otherwise they go into business as clerks or typewriters, or even as saleswomen in the big stores. Girls of the lower classes, who have little or no education and have no capital but their good looks and jolly disposition, nat-

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If your liver is out of order, causing Biliousness, Sick Headache, Heartburn, or Constipation, take a dose of

## Hood's Pills

On retiring, and tomorrow your digestive organs will be regulated and you will be bright, active and ready for any kind of work. This has been the experience of others; it will be yours. HOOD'S PILLS are sold by all medicine dealers. 25 cts.

usually turn to the bar. Sometimes they are recommended by a friend already in the business; sometimes they know some man who keeps a 'pub' or a hotel, and is willing to give them a chance. Failing any of these opportunities, they advertise, the usual form being something after this fashion;

Young Girl would like position in hotel to learn the business; willing to go for a time for nothing.

There is no necessity to say that it is in the bar that she wants employment. Any person reading the advertisement knows that. If she is good looking and bright, she will have no difficulty in getting a chance to try her hand at the beer engines; but there may be a good deal of luck in the kind of place in which she gets a start. After a talk with the proprietor, who tells her what her duties will be and what he is willing to pay her if she turns out well, she is probably told to be on hand at a certain time and take her first lesson, and after quite a little fixing up and many careful finishing touches to her toilet she finds herself for the first time behind the bar of a public house.

A student of human nature could find a large supply of material in analyzing a girl's emotions during her first day behind a bar. It is always better if she can make her first attempt away from home, so that the customers will be strange to her. Even then she feels that every one is looking at her, and she cannot help knowing that the men are making remarks to one another about her, some of which she hears enough of to make her ready to sink through the floor with shame. If she begins in her own town she is sometimes shocked to see men whom she has known and respected reveal the lowest side of their natures during their visits to the public house, and she can hardly believe the stories the other girls tell her about men who she thought were model husbands. During the first day or two she makes no attempt to wait on customers, but simply watches the other girls and their manner toward patrons of the house and learns to manage the beer engines. These beer engines are a set of lever handles, the pull being connected with the barrel in the cellar. The new girl is carefully instructed as to the different pulls; which is for 'bitter,' which for porter, &c. There is quite a knack in knowing how long and how hard to pull and also in judging how much froth a customer will stand.

Having learned the engines, the next thing is to learn how much to draw according to what is asked for, and the various mixtures and their proper proportions. If a customer asks for a 'glass,' that means two penn'orth of bitter ale. If he asks for beer he does not mean lager, but porter. If he asks for 'alt and 'alf, he wants half bitter and half stout. If wines are asked for, they are poured out by the barmaid in a glass which holds the exact quantity when filled to the brim. Silver measures are used for such drinks as whisky, the amount asked for, usually three penn'orth, being poured from the measure into a small tumbler instead of putting the bottle on the bar and allowing the customer to help himself, as in America. There is no such thing as giving two 15 cent drinks for a quarter, as here, and drinks are the same size in all bars.

It takes a girl about a week to learn the prices of the various drinks and the manner of working the beer engines, and it is always part of her duties to keep the bar clean and to see that the stock of liquors is full. The moment she finds the supply failing in one of the 'engines she calls to the cellarman, 'George, bitter is off,' and he immediately puts on a new barrel. After a girl has been about a week behind the bar she is usually ready to wait on customers after a fashion, but it takes a smart girl at least six months to learn the business—that is, the tricks of the trade.

While a girl is learning, and before she gets to waiting on customers, she will probably see enough to convince her that the mere selling of the drinks is not everything, and that the barmaid's attitude toward the men who patronize the place is a matter requiring careful study. The other girls will probably inform her as to what she may expect in the way of conversation from the men, and they will advise her to look pleasant and turn it off if anything unpleasant is said. Girls who have not been properly warned of the difference between a man at home and in front of a bar, have

been known to bring their careers as barmaids to a sudden end by slapping some customer's face, and then rushing off to the proprietor in tears. Barmaids must be of sterner stuff than that. The great secret of success is to judge her customers, and the principal thing is to study the regular ones and to learn their funny little ways. Almost all the regulars have 'some particular drink, such as gin and bitters and the barmaid must know just how much they like and how to mix it. Having been once told, she should never require a second lesson from the same customers. Some men are offended if they are asked what it will be to day, while others like to be waited on as if they had never been there before. Some have certain glasses they fancy, and some like the barmaid to make a pretence of helping them and their friends out of a certain private bottle.

It is quite an art to know how much to talk to the various men that come in and what to say. Some men the barmaid must not speak to unless they speak to her, no matter how long they have known her or how familiar they were on their last visit. Some must be treated very differently under different conditions. A man will come in by himself and be very jolly and familiar if he finds the barmaid alone in a hotel bar, and will perhaps even try to chuck her under the chin. The same afternoon he will come in with a friend and will act as if he had never seen her before and never spoke to such a creature in his life. Some men expect a girl to talk to them as if they were her brothers, others as if they were sweethearts, while a few, fortunately a very few, speak to barmaids as if they were no better than they should be.

An experienced girl can tell from a man's appearance about what he will expect or what he will stand in the way of familiarity. She takes no notice of his dress, because that is no guide in England, where the small-salaried clerks in the city dress as well as the biggest 'toffs.' Most of the men are judged entirely from their conversation. When a man comes in for a drink especially if he is alone he feels himself obliged to make some remark to the barmaid, unless she has other customers on hand. The conversation usually starts by referring to some subject proper to the occasion. It is a race day, for instance, he will ask her if she backed the winner, or something of that kind. From this the conversation almost invariably and rapidly drifts into flattering remarks personal to the barmaid herself. When a man begins to carry this kind of thing too far or gets too personal, the girl must have tact enough to manage him without offending him, perhaps by telling him he says that so nicely he must have told it to many girls before.

It is a great point with a good barmaid never to let her talk with one customer keep her from giving immediate attention to a new comer and never to betray the slightest preference for any one. The most disagreeable thing in the business is for a girl to be compelled to stand and talk to a man she positively dislikes, whose manner or conversation is repulsive or who has insulted her. A smart girl will stand almost anything sooner than offend a customer, but it sometimes requires great self-control to do it. Married and elderly men are, as a rule well behaved and are the barmaid's best friends. They know how to treat a woman, and even if their remarks are sometimes a little broad, and they occasionally whisper things which they would not care to have their wives hear, it is always done pleasantly and the girl can turn it off as a joke.

The terror of the barmaid is the dude, the young fellow who thinks every girl is in love with him. He has no respect for her, and says the most insulting things with the slightest encouragement. He will come in later with a friend, to whom he has probably been boasting in the meantime, and he will lean over the bar and say things that make the barmaid turn scarlet. It is to these fellows that barmaids as a class owe the unsavory reputation that they have among those who do not know them.

If a barmaid meets a customer outside she usually speaks to him, or at least bows, if he is alone, but she must use her judgment in such matters. A man who would be very much offended if a barmaid did not recognize him on the street when he was alone might be ten times more offended if she bowed to him when he was with a friend. No barmaid would recognize her best friend if he was with another woman, and the man who has been cut under such circumstances usually takes an early opportunity to drop into the bar and tell the girl that he saw her and how nice she was looking, or something of that sort, just to show that he appreciated her tact.

Like chorus girls, ballet dancers and others who have left their homes to make their living in the glare of public life, barmaids have a very bad reputation, but careful observers agree that it is largely

undeserved. The girl behind the footlights has no one to account to for her time, and is free to spend her mornings and afternoon pretty much as she pleases and to stay out for late suppers after the play. The barmaid must be on duty before nine every morning, and must stay behind the bar until midnight. She is usually so tired after being on her feet all day that she does not need any housekeeper's rules to send her directly to bed. The only leisure she has is one evening a week and one day a month. The evening is a very short affair, for she cannot go out until 8 and must be back in the house before 10. The day she has to herself is usually a Sunday, and it does not begin until 1 o'clock and she must be back at 10. She has no chance to go to any of the exhibitions that take place in the afternoons and seldom sees the sun except through the windows of the bar.

In spite of all this the barmaid has unusual opportunities for making acquaintances and friends. These are usually of two very different classes—those who belong to her own set, such as the tradesmen that bring stuff to the hotel where she is employed, and those whom she meets across the bar. Nothing is more natural for a man who has to hang around his hotel a good deal than to strike up an acquaintance with the barmaid, especially if she is good-looking. If he finds her agreeable he may perhaps venture to ask her to spend her next evening out at the Earl's Court Exhibition, or her coming Sunday afternoon in a trip up the Thames, with a supper at Richmond. The girl has to use her own judgment in accepting such invitations, but if she goes and the man has sense enough to behave himself and remember that the only difference between the girl he is with and those that he may be accustomed to is that this one has to work for a living and that she is availing herself of one of the few opportunities she has for enjoyment, he may pass some of the pleasantest hours of his life with her. There is nothing about her of which he need be ashamed. She is always neatly dressed, quiet and well behaved. Barmaids have no ear marks by which they can be picked out in a crowd like actresses, and their knowledge of the world and its ways makes them the most agreeable companions, always jolly but never loud or conspicuous.

What becomes of all the pretty barmaids? They get about \$3 a week and their board and lodging in the house, about twice as much as house servants. They cannot save a competence out of this, and most of them leave the business before middle age. A surprising number become installed in some of those modest little cottages at Shepherd's Bush or Blackheath, what Englishmen call 'second establishments,' usually the outcome of some of the pleasant excursions already referred to. It is a matter of public knowledge that one of the best known men in England had such an establishment presided over for thirty years by a barmaid that he met in Wales, and whose companionship he said he enjoyed more than that of all the great people he had ever met.

Quite a number marry small tradesmen, or men who keep bars of their own either in small public houses or hotels. On account of their business training and their tact in managing and keeping customers they make excellent wives for small tradesmen who need help in the shop. They usually get along and 'save a bit,' and before long you will find them driving a dog cart on Sunday afternoons and going to the theatre occasionally. After a while you will hear that they are living in a neat little cottage in the suburbs, instead of over the shop, and if you happen to pass that way some afternoon you will see that the hand that began life by pulling on the beer engines under the glare of the lights in a public house have found at last their true occupation in pushing a baby carriage under the shade of the chestnuts on Hampstead Heath.

## THE FEDERATING COLONIES.

Something About the Federal System of Legislation in Australia.

H. de Walker, writing of Australia's government in a recent Atlantic Monthly says: 'The railways, almost with exception and all the telegraphs and telephones, are in the hands of the community. In the few cases in which we find the private ownership of railways, a particular line was demanded at a certain time, and the Government were not then in a position to the funds required for the construction. Western Australia has recently purchased the entire property of one of the two private undertakings in the colony.

'We find in most of the colonies a mass of sanitary and industrial legislation.

'Again South Australia, Victoria, Western Australia and New Zealand lend money to settlers at low rates of interest; South Australia sells its wines in London; Queensland facilitates the erection of sugar mills; Victoria and South Australia have given a bonus upon the exportation of dairy produce. These colonies and New Zealand receive the produce, grade and freeze it free of charge, or at a rate which barely covers the expenses. Victoria contributes toward the erection of butter factories; Victoria and New Zealand have subsidized the mining industry; and Western Australia has adopted a comprehensive scheme for the supply of water to the gold fields.

'The national system of primary education is in all the colonies compulsory and undenominational. In South Australia, Victoria, Queensland and New Zealand it

is also free. In the other colonies fees are charged, which may be remitted wholly or partly in the case of the inability of parents to pay them.

'New Zealand and South Australia have appointed public trustees. New Zealand has long had a department of life insurance.

'Finally, since my visit in 1897, New Zealand has adopted a system of old age pensions. A pension of seven shillings a week is to be given to every person above the age of 65 years, provided he or she has lived in the colony for 25 years, and is able to pass a certain test in regard to sobriety and good conduct.

'Such, then, are the main lines of development in Australia and New Zealand; and it is noteworthy that the colonies which are the most advanced—Victoria, South Australia and New Zealand—escaped the forcible introduction of convicts which has undoubtedly been prejudicial to the other. In fact, South Australia and New Zealand were settled largely by immigrants selected by various associations in Great Britain.'

## BLOOD POISONING.

TERRIBLE SUFFERING OF A PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY FARMER.

Hospital Treatment Failed to Benefit him and his Life was Despaired of—Again Well and Strong.

From the Belleville Sun.

A reporter of the Belleville Sun recently had an opportunity to investigate a cure made through the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People which is little short of miraculous. The subject of the cure is Mr. William H. Conklin, a well known farmer who lives in Ameliasburg township, Prince Edward county. When the reporter drove over to see Mr. Conklin he was under the impression, from what he had heard of the case, that he would find a partial invalid, but to his surprise found a stalwart robust man of six feet, actively engaged unloading logs from a sleigh. On making known the object of his visit the reporter was invited into the house and Mr. Conklin gave his story as follows:—

You can see for yourself that my condition is now one of good health, and yet I have been near death's door. A year ago last summer I injured my hand, with the result that blood poisoning set in. A doctor was called in and the usual treatment given and the hand apparently got well and I started to work. I soon turned out, however, that the poison had not been entirely got rid of and it spread through my whole system. The doctor was again called in, but looking upon my case as critical, advised me to go to the hospital at Belleville. This I did and remained there throughout the month of October, 1897. My condition was desperate, and as I was not making any progress toward recovery, I may frankly say that I gave my case up as hopeless. Believing that I could not recover, I asked to be taken home. I then tried various treatments with no better results. I could not walk without help, and I was doubled up like a jack-knife. At this stage I was advised to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and sent for half a dozen boxes. After using the first half dozen my appetite returned and night sweats which had been the bane of my sleeping hours deserted me. Knowing that the pills were helping me I sent for a further supply. Meantime a swelling came in my hip, which finally broke, and from that on my progress was more rapid and I am again as sound as ever, and able to do a days work with any one. I can only add that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills brought me to my present state of good health and so long as I live I shall praise the remedy that brought me back from the verge of the grave.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cure by going to the root of the disease. They renew and build up the blood, and strengthen the nerves, thus driving disease from the system. Avoid imitations by insisting that every box you purchase is enclosed in a wrapper bearing the full trade mark Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. If your dealer does not keep them they will be sent postpaid at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50 by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

A Big Umbrella.

One of the novel attractions of the forthcoming Parisian World's Fair is to be a gigantic umbrella, which will shelter thirty thousand people. So many people have met with the unpleasantness incident to a sudden fall of rain when attending an exhibition, and have tried to crowd into the already crowded refuges from the storm, that the idea can hardly fail to meet with approval.

It is to a Frenchwoman, Madame Percha-Giverné, well known in the gay capital for her inventions in parasols and walking-sticks, that Paris is to owe this gigantic umbrella. It will be more than three hundred feet in height, and will be supported by a metal column, the base of which will be more than one hundred and twenty feet in diameter. The covering will be four hundred and fifty feet across, and will be decorated with designs in colored glass, which will serve at night to illuminate the exterior and interior with electric light.

The inside of what may be termed the handle will be divided into four stories three of which will be under cover, and the fourth above. In each of the covered stories there is to be a cafe. Concerts and theatrical performances will also be given in these buildings. On the fourth floor a restaurant, sheltered by a movable cupola will be under the management of one of the principal firms of Paris. It has already been engaged by this firm. Comfortable elevators will convey visitors to the top.

## APIOL &amp; STEEL PILLS

A REMEDY FOR IRREGULARITIES. Superseding Bitter Apple, Pil Cochis, Pennyroyal, &c. Order of all Chemists, or post free for \$1.50 from EVANS & SONS, LTD., Montreal and Teron o. Canada, Victoria, B. C. or Martini, Pharmaceutical Chemist, Southampton, Eng.