

# BACHELORS FORM A NOVEL LEAGUE

(Continued from page thirteen.)

friendships with "perilous woman." The gay young bachelors contended that if they did not marry they were quite within their rights, and called upon all to combine to fight a bill which is to be introduced in parliament, obliging unmarried men to marry unmarried women whose reputations they have injured. This is indeed a drastic measure which makes bachelors even outside those who have "combined," tremble in their shoes. But there is hope for them yet. In Italy there is a long gap between a contemplated and an accomplished bill, and very many slips between the cup and the lip, especially when the contents of the cup are as bitter as all that. The bachelors may find ways of "approaching" the deputies of their several districts, and moral suasion and pressure can be made to go a long way. The congress thus decided to use every influence in its power to oppose such legislation, and the skittish young men have meanwhile promised to conduct themselves with more discretion.

## FUND PROPOSED.

The Padua congress also agreed to establish a fund to be used in whatever way may seem best to prevent members of the Society of Bachelors who develop matrimonial tendencies from taking the fatal plunge. The man who shows signs of succumbing to Cupid will, after this, be reasoned with, and if he seems penitent the fund will be drawn upon to enable him to go where his charmer cannot follow, even to emigrate, especially to America where several of the Associated Bachelors already live. But the fund will have to be very carefully doled out, as otherwise what is to prevent a Bachelor who desires to change his residence from pretending to be in love, and then allowing himself to be persuaded to make himself scarce?

## MAIDS GET BUSY.

While the bachelors of Northern Italy are combining to protect themselves against the eternal feminine, the maids of southern Italy are doing the same to protect their matrimonial interests. A club in full swing in Rome is a type of others further south, and as will be seen, holds its masculine captives with a firm hand. The spider and the fly are not in it!

## CLUB OF "GOOD HOPE."

The Roman club is called the "Good Hope," and has really justified its name. The ladies in their organization have again proved the superiority of the feminine mind over the masculine, and that they understand human nature much better. The bachelors are sternly kept away from the softer sex, they are punished if found transgressing and consequently forbidden fruit seems sweet, while the maids have made pleasure and amicable intercourse between the sexes the ostensible object of their club, most astutely arguing that the men are easier caught in their hours of ease and relaxation. So there are dances, card parties and music of

## THE WAY OF THE ENGLISH SUFFRAGETTE.



The picture illustrates the rather summary method adopted by the London police in dealing with the too energetic advocates of woman suffrage. The scene depicted occurred during the recent raid of the suffragettes on the official residence of the premier.

sorts, etc., among the members, the girls refusing their company outside the club, so that the men who want to associate with them must come in. The president is Assunta Bessi, who is about 22 years old and she is aided and abetted by 150 maids, but their ranks are constantly growing.

## RULES SHOW OBJECT.

The rules, however, clearly show the real object of the society. They are, of course, read by the young men, but probably after they have already had their heads turned and are blind to their danger.

The first rule runs: "All girls over 10 years of age may join." Experience has shown that the majority in the majority of cases run from 12 to 22, probably because by that time they have been caught.

Rule second establishes that "the entrance fee is two lire (40 cents), and the monthly subscription one lire, which may be paid weekly if the maid finds it more convenient." Just fancy a husband for 20 cents a month! What an attraction to all unmarried maids!

Rule third: "The aim of the Good Hope society is mutual help." You see the form the assistance is to take is left purposely vague to be brought out more clearly in another rule.

Rule fourth: "If one of the Maids becomes engaged outside the club she is permitted to introduce her fiancé, who thus becomes a member and subject to the rules."

Rule fifth: "All the Maids belonging to the society will pay a small sum into a fund which is set aside to aid the Maids who are about to marry in the necessary expenses brought about by that event."

## NIGGER IN THE WOODPILE.

Rule sixth: "The betrothed of a Maid member assumes a moral responsibility before the whole society, and should he fail in his word his case becomes the affair of the society." Here we see the first sign of the cloven foot.

Rule seventh: "If the fiancé of a Maid member is unfaithful or breaks his word, all the other members are bound to revenge her."

Rule eighth: "In the case of a Maid having been deceived it is the duty of the members to try and find her another husband."

Rule ninth: "If a Maid member marries the club is not to lose sight of her and will aid her if the necessity arises."

Rule tenth: "A man may spontaneously ask to be made a member, even if he does not know any of the Maids, provided he is animated by the right sentiment, and if after one week he chooses a member as his fiancé."

This last rule might just as well have been omitted as no man has yet availed himself of it.

## TERRORS NOT SPECIFIED.

It will have been noticed that the terrors reserved for the culprit who goes back on his pledged word are not specified, and are probably all the more dreadful to the masculine imagination for that reason, as after all what can be done to him other than cast him forth into the outer darkness?

This, however, has happened practically only once in the three years since the "Good Hope" has been in existence. The young man who fell from grace was hauled up before the entire club and made to give his reasons, but as he pleaded youth (he was only 18) nothing was done except expel him with contumely. Another case befell, but was patched up within the club. A man transferred his affection, but as it was to another member, and as the brother of the faithless one offered to take his place, the peace was not broken, there was merely an amicable settlement.

Thus even yet the punishment for faithless men has not been specialized; faithless women apparently goes unscathed.

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Mrs. CADWALDER JONES

### UPHOLDS VIVISECTION.

New York, Feb. 25.—Mrs. Cadwalder Jones, a leader of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, is out with a pistol to join the antivivisection force, giving as her reason, the belief in the great benefit results from the scientific application and study of vivisection; she believes, however, the privilege should be restricted to men of science.

## RECENTLY EXCAVATED ROMAN STREET.



The cut is from a photograph of the Strada della Fontana, which has recently been excavated at Ostia, the ancient seaport of Rome, at the mouth of the Tiber. Excavations have been under way for several years in this vicinity, and now a number of streets are uncovered.

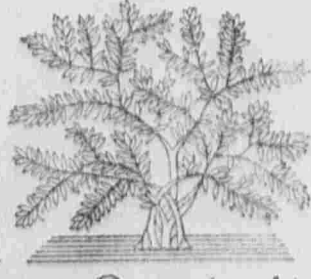
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\$3.35	\$3.35	\$3.35	\$3.35	\$3.35	\$3.35	\$3.35	\$3.35
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