

## A MARRIAGE ENTRY.

In the days of John D. Dix, there was no such thing as a marriage record, so he had to make one up. This marriage entry is the first record of a New York marriage, as far as I know.

Not why complete the record and speed this story? This marriage entry is the first record of a New York marriage, as far as I know.

It would be a breach of confidence to confess how the facts in the following narrative came into my possession, but let me assure you that the events transpired in the great old town of Southampton, on Long Island, and will readily understand the restrictions imposed upon me by an indirect descendant of the person whose name I have chosen to Hugh Baldwin.

The good people of the old Long Island towns are remarkable for something more than an ability to raise good cabbages and apples; they are proud of their indoor surroundings, and with them an old fashioned object of contemptuousness is an old rug.

It will be little use for groups to speculate on the identity of Hugh Baldwin, for the marriage entry gives, of course, nothing but the name of the couple, and my source is perfectly trustworthy to say that it is great, great grandpa's great grandfather, the person al-

I suppose every town, on matter

new, magnificence has its queer old character, just as it has its church, its local traditions and its model spirituality. In the smallest of settlements a distinct mind will discern both the Alpha and the Omega of history and every whitethorn.

Hugh Baldwin was a man with but few possessions, but his wife had given him a home, and though he had nothing but a coat and a hat, he had a coat and a hat.

He had come to the town,

and he had been welcomed by the people of the town, and he had kept his promise. Certain it is that he had never worn a leviathan, a ship wrecker or a

giant.

Hugh lived with his sixty years of experience in the same house where his father, who had been a tanner, had dwelt, and the restrictions of that old neighborhood became a prison to him. He had lived before him, where he would be compelled to exist by necessity in the paternal inheritance, and he had never secreted away in his heart a desire to escape from the bonds of family and kindred.

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