

went a modification, and became more gentle. This change must have affected in the first place the mode of procuring a wife, for, we find that everywhere marriage by capture was succeeded by marriage by purchase. The more advanced bridegroom came to realize that by carrying off his bride against her will, he exposed himself to the vengeance of her family, and he began to offer some compensation which was looked upon as an indemnity for the loss sustained and for the maintenance of the girl until her marriage. The earliest form of such a compensation was the personal service rendered by the bridegroom to the father of the girl. This custom finds its expression in the biblical story of Jacob, who served fourteen years in order to obtain his two wives, Leah and Rachel. This form of compensation was kept up until man began to acquire and realize the value of property. As soon as this took place, we find the prospective husband paying property to the owner of the girl. And in such manner marriage by purchase became an universally recognized institution. Among our Indians, for example, purchase is the only way of contracting a valid marriage. Among some tribes the children of a woman, who has not been purchased, are considered illegitimate, and they constitute a class of social outcasts, who can intermarry only among themselves. This form of marriage exists even among the most advanced and Christianized members of the Red Race. I recollect such an instance from my own personal experiences. My Coos (Oregon) interpreter was a Christian and he married according to the rites of the Catholic Church, of which he is a member, but he was nevertheless obliged to pay for his wife the sum of \$100 in cash, in addition to a horse.

The number of people that still practice marriage by purchase, is legion. One finds them in every part of the world. It is interesting to note how the standard price paid for a wife by the different races varies. An African savage is able to purchase a wife with an ox or two cows; the Asiatic husband values his wife at a price that ranges from \$2.50 to \$25, while our Indian pays for his "better half" the sum of \$50 and up. In some cases, when the bridegroom is too poor to pay the price, he is allowed to contract the marriage with the understanding that he will settle the debt at some later opportunity. Such an instance of marriage "on credit" is recorded by Emin Pasha, the famous African explorer. According to his statement, a savage of the upper Nile region may marry "on credit," but his wife and children remain in the parental home until the full price is paid.

That even such highly civilized people as the Jews and Mohamedans purchased their wives until very recently, is shown by their nuptial ceremonies. The orthodox Jews today have a sham purchase, called "marrying by the penny," which forms an important part of a wed-