

THE LAND OF THE BARMAIDS.

Facts About Curious Types of English Young Women.

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

Among the thousands of tourists who are rushing into England at 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 procure 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 boulevards, 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 affair of 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 fire would not draw. Tell him that you have no such things in America, and yet the chimneys draw well enough, and ask him if he ever tried a chimney without a pot on it, or ever knew any one else to try 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 "sojoring" in time at the bench or by abstracting small sums from the money drawer. Keepers of public houses think that barmaids are most 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 the patrons of what are known as commercial hotels—that is, hotels frequented by druggists. It is an old saying that the hand that 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, judgment 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 they happen to select such a business as tending bar? All ranks of life have their outlets for 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 lured to death with the monotony of sewing and darning. 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 had 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, naturally 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. Falling 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 manners 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 ceiling. 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 worth 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 pennorth of bitter a/c. If he asks for beer, he does not mean lager, but porter. If he asks for "air and air," 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 whiskey, the amount asked for, usually three pennorth, 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 falling in one of the engines she calls to the cellarman, "George, bitter's 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 made of sterner stuff than that. The great secret of success is to judge her customers, and the principal thing is to study the regulars 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 customer. Some men are offended if they are asked what it will be today, 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 pretense 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. In 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 object proper to the occasion. If 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 personally 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 newcomer and never to betray the slightest prefer-

ence 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 without 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 own 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 in to 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 afternoons pretty much as she pleases and to stay out for late suppers after the play. The barmaid must be on duty before 9 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 house-keeper'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 not be back in the house before 12. 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 11. She has no chance to go to any of the exhibitions that take place in the afternoon 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. There are usually 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 round 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 tip 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 to remember that the only difference between the girl he is with and those that this one 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, and well behaved. Barmaids have no earmarks 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 of this, and most of them leave the business before middle age. A surprising number become instilled in some of the grandest 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 theater 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 hands 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.

No picture is hung on the walls of the Louvre in Paris until the artist has been dead 10 years.

BECOME WILD AGAIN.

Domestic Animals Revert to Their Primitive Habits.

The Scourge of Rabbits—Where Cats, Dogs, Pigs and Sheep Have Become a Menacing Nuisance.

The notion that ordinary domestic animals, such as horses, cats, dogs, etc., may multiply so numerous as to become serious pests—nay, that in certain parts of the world they have already done so—is sufficiently striking to lend exceptional interest to a bulletin on the subject which will be included in the forthcoming Year Book of the department of agriculture.

It appears that in some western states wild horses have become a positive nuisance, and in 1887 Nevada passed a law permitting them to be shot. Recent reports from Washington are to the effect that "cayuses" in that region are considered of so little value that they are killed and used as bait for poisoning wolves and coyotes. In this connection it is worth mentioning that in some portions of Australia wild horses have multiplied to such an extent as to consume the grass needed for sheep and other animals, and hunters have been employed to shoot them.

House cats quite commonly run wild in the neighborhood of cities and towns, and under such circumstances become pests, propagating numerous and accomplishing a good deal of destruction, says the Chicago Tribune. Depending upon forage for a living, they do not restrict themselves to rats and mice, but rob the farmers' hen-roosts and attack the wild birds. Of the latter, indeed, they kill so many that the decrease of native feathered species in some districts seems to be largely attributable to them.

Where cats have run wild on isolated islands their work can be more accurately appreciated. For example, on Sable Island, off the coast of Nova Scotia, they were introduced about 1880 and rapidly exterminated the rabbits, which had been in possession for at least half a century. In one of the harbors of Kerguelen Land, a barren and desolate bit of antarctic territory to the southeast of the cape of Good Hope, cats escaped from ships, have made themselves at home on a little islet known as Cat Island, which has been long used as a wintering place for sealers. Here they live in holes in the ground, preying upon sea birds and their young, and are said to have developed such extraordinary ferocity that it is almost impossible to tame them, even when captured young. On Aldabra, 200 miles north-west of Madagascar, cats have completely exterminated an interesting species of rail peculiar to that island, which, being unable to fly, had no chance of escape.

Pigs have run wild in some of the southern states and also on certain islands, where, as on the Galapagos, they were originally introduced to furnish food for crews of vessels in need of fresh meat. They were imported into New Zealand by Captain Cook about 1770, and soon becoming wild increased to a remarkable degree. A century later wild pigs were so abundant in the fax thickets of the province of Taranaki on the North Island, that a hunter could shoot fifty in a single day. In one case 25,000 wild pigs are said to have been killed there by the hunters in less than two years.

Sheep and goats when numerous are liable to cause widespread injury, particularly in forested regions. An instructive example of the damage done by goats is afforded by St. Helena, which is a mountainous island scarcely 50 square miles in extent, its highest summits reaching an elevation of 2,906 feet. At the time of its discovery, about the beginning of the sixteenth century, it is said to have been covered by dense forest; today it is described as a rocky desert. This change has been largely brought about by goats first introduced by the Portuguese in 1513, and which multiplied so fast that in 75 years they existed by thousands.

Browsing on the young trees and shrubs, they rapidly brought about the destruction of the vegetation which protected the steep slopes. With the disappearance of the undergrowth began the washing of the soil by tropical rains and the destruction of the forest. In 1709 the governor reported that the timber was rapidly disappearing and that the goats should be destroyed if the forest were to be preserved. This advice was not heeded, and only a century later, in 1810, another governor reported the total destruction of the forest by the goats, and in consequence an expense of \$12,000 in one year for the importation of fuel for government use.

The Santa Barbara Islands, off the coast of southern California, and the island of Guadalupe, off the Lower California coast, are utilized as ranges for goats. All these islands are dry and more or less covered with brush, but arborescent vegetation is comparatively scarce. The goats practically run wild, and already exist in considerable numbers. On Santa Catalina, one of the Santa Barbara group, wild goat hunting is one of the diversions afforded tourists, and is considered one of the principal attractions of this popular summer resort. As yet the goats have not been on the island long enough to cause any serious effects on the vegetation, and they may never bring about the ruin which has been wrought on St. Helena. But it is scarcely possible for the islands to be grazed by goats for an indefinite length of time without serious damage.

The common rabbits of Europe were originally introduced into Australia for purposes of sport. They spread over the country like a scourge. So rapidly did they multiply that in 1878 legislative action for their destruction was begun in South Australia, and the example was soon followed by New South Wales, New Zealand, Queensland and Tasmania. At the present time their range in Australia is prob-

ably equal in area to that of our three largest states—Texas, California and Montana. Millions of dollars have been spent for bounties, for poisons, and various other methods of destruction; thousands of miles of rabbit-proof fences have been built, and hundreds of schemes for destroying the pests have been suggested, but nothing has yet been found that will effectually exterminate the pest. Natural enemies, such as cats and other carnivorous animals, have been introduced, and in certain parts of New Zealand at least have become almost as much a pest as the rabbits they were intended to kill.

In 1887 no less than 19,182,539 rabbits were destroyed in New South Wales alone, but, despite the efforts of the government and private landowners, the rabbits seem to be still increasing. In the meantime a great industry has grown up in the export of rabbit skins. For the past five years New Zealand has been shipping an average of about 15,000,000 per annum, and since 1873 has exported more than 205,000,000. Recently causing rabbit meat for export to European markets is assuming larger proportions, and gives promise of developing into an important industry.

In the attempt to check the rabbit pest in New Zealand, recourse has been had to the importation of natural enemies, such as ferrets, stoats, and weasels. In the Wairarapa district some 600 ferrets, 200 stoats and 1 weasel, and 500 cats had been turned out previous to 1887, and June, 1888, contracts were made by the government for nearly 22,000 ferrets, and several thousand had previously been liberated on crown and private lands. Large numbers of stoats and weasels have also been liberated during the last fifteen years. This sort of predatory animals speedily brought about a decrease in the number of rabbits, but their work was not confined to rabbits, and soon game birds and other species were found to be diminishing. The stoat and the weasel are much more blood-thirsty than the ferret, and the widespread destruction is attributed to them rather than to the latter animal. New that some of the native birds are threatened with extermination, it has been suggested to set aside an island along the New Zealand coast where the more interesting indigenous species can be kept safe from their enemies and saved from complete extinction.

Rats and mice are not classed ordinarily as domestic animals, and yet they are such in fact. They share man's dwelling, subsist upon his food, and accompany him whithersoever he goes. Unquestionably, they are among the greatest pests with which he has to contend, and the annoyance and damage which they occasion are beyond computation. They are ubiquitous, abundant alike in the largest cities and on the most distant islands of the sea. They have not been intentionally introduced anywhere, but have found their way by means of vessels to all parts of the earth. Small islands, populated with rats from wrecks or otherwise, are occasionally overrun by these animals. On the island of Aldabra, already mentioned, rats fairly swarm, and are destructive to the gigantic native land tortoise, eating the young as soon as they are hatched. Sable Island, off the coast of Nova Scotia, has suffered from several plagues of rats, and it is said that the first superintendent of the light station and his men were at one time threatened with starvation owing to the invasions made on their stores by rats.

The common brown rat, otherwise known as the wharf rat or Norway rat, is of Asiatic origin, and until 200 years ago was unknown in Europe or America. In the autumn of 1577 large numbers of this species entered Europe by swimming across the Volga and gaining a foothold in the province of Astrakhan in eastern Russia, spread westward over central Europe. Five years later they reached England by vessels from western India. They arrived on the eastern shores of the United States about 1775, and by 1855 were abundant at several points on the Pacific coast. The black rat was the common house rat of Europe in the middle ages, and was introduced into the new world about 1544, or more than 200 years earlier than the house rat. In Puerto Rico and some other islands the black rat has taken to living in the crowns of coconut trees, to which latter it does great damage by biting off the unripe nuts, upon which it feeds.

Similarly, the rats in Jamaica are said to have been driven to the trees by the mongoose, which was introduced in 1872 for the purpose of destroying these pests of the sugar cane. Nine individuals were imported, four males and five females, and they increased with such rapidity that they soon spread to all parts of the island, even to the tops of the highest mountains. As rat-killers they surpassed expectations, but as the rodents diminished, they took to killing other animals, including young pigs, kids, lambs, kittens, puppies, poultry, ground-nesting game birds, lizards, snakes, frogs and land crabs. Also they ate bananas, pine-apples, young corn, sweet potatoes, and coconuts. Thus before long the mongoose proved itself a nuisance far worse than the enemy it was intended to combat.

The destruction by it of land and fresh water tortoises, and of the eggs of the green turtle is lamentable, though less so than the extermination of insectivorous birds and reptiles which has brought a plague of ticks and other objectionable bugs. In the Hawaiian Islands, likewise, the imported mongoose has wiped out the native birds to a great extent—particularly a species of goose that is found only in that group, above an altitude of 4000 feet, and the peculiar Hawaiian duck.

Up to date the gaint bats familiarly known as "flying foxes" have not been imported into the new world, but, if introduced, they would find a congenial habitat in tropical and semi-tropical America, and they might become a serious plague in the southern part of the United States. The genus to which they belong includes about 50 species, which are found in the warm latitudes of the old world, from Madagascar east to Australia and the

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Samoa Islands, and north to India, the Malay archipelago, and southern Japan. The largest Australian species measures more than five feet from wing tip to wing tip. In that country these creatures live in immense communities, or "camps," in swamps and other inaccessible places. Here they may be seen by thousands, frequently crowded so thickly on the trees that large branches are broken by their weight. They fly considerable distances in search of food, sailing forth in flocks about sunset and returning to their camps before dawn.

In New South Wales, and more especially in Queensland, flying foxes are one of the worst pests of the fruit grower. They are particularly injurious to figs, bananas, peaches, and other soft fruit, and it is estimated that the damage done to orchards in the coast district of New South Wales amounts to many thousands of pounds annually. Various expedients have been suggested to protect orchards from their depredations, but the most practical method is to destroy the bats in their camps. A few years ago the minister for mines and agriculture for New South Wales supplied ammunition for this purpose, and, after considerable expenditure of powder and shot, 100,000 foxes were destroyed, at a cost of about 30 cents apiece. Wholesale destruction with dynamite was suggested, and experiments with high explosives were made by the department of agriculture. Changes of roborite and gun cotton connected with wires so that they could be fired by an electric current were placed in the branches of trees where the bats were accustomed to roost. The bats carefully avoided the trees in which explosives were hung, and when the charges were fired none were killed, even among those roosting in neighboring trees.

In various parts of the world domestic dogs that run wild have become serious pests, devouring sheep and in other ways making themselves a nuisance. On the Galapagos Islands they have helped largely to exterminate the gigantic tortoises native to that group, making a habit of waiting for the egg to hatch and then devouring the baby turtle.

THE CAKE-WALK.

Miss Angelina in de race,
De sweetest des deamin' 'tum her face,
She gwine ter win dat walkin' race—
She gwine ter win dat race, sah!

Her sleeves des hangin' wid de lace,
Er a big blue sash in roun' her waist,
She gwine ter win dat walkin' race—
She gwine ter win dat race, sah!

Miss Angelina, heah my han'—
You de sweetest gal in all de lan',
En heah's a rose, 'um a nice young mar,
Dat time you win de race, ma'nest
—Atlanta Constitution.