

On meeting an acquaintance who is in ill health, how many rush forward exclaiming: How bad you look, I should never have known you! This is not only execrable on the part of the person who perpetrates it, but it often followed by serious consequences to the invalid, who is naturally depressed by such news. Invalids should always be met with cheerful words or manner, even if they have to be assumed. Those possessed of truly good manners as distinguished from surface polish, will always and on every occasion have a proper regard for the aged. What more beautiful sight is there than devotion from youth to the aged around them? On the other hand, to see, as is frequently the case, children allowed to mimic and ridicule tottering age, is a shame and disgrace to the age in which we live! It is true that it is never too late to learn, but those who have the most agreeable manners and who exhibit urbanity under any circumstances, are the ones in whom good manners were instilled in early childhood. It is not only rude, but extremely heartless to laugh when a tale of distress is being told, yet this occurs frequently among those moving in what is considered the most exclusive society which be it understood, if not a term synonymous with well bred, although it is looked upon as such. One thoroughly well bred is mindful of the feelings of every one, from the highest to the lowliest person, he or she may come in contact with, for thus, in trifles, do good manners and breeding show.

SUNNY ROOMS MAKES SUNNY LIVES.—Let us take the airiest, choicest and sunniest room in the house for our living room—the workshop where brain and body are made up and rewarded; and there let us have a bay window, no matter how plain in structure, through which the good twin angels—sun light and pure air—can freely enter. This room shall be the poem of the house. It shall give freedom and scope to sunsets, the tender green and changing tints of Spring, the glow of Summer, the pomp of Autumn, the white of winter, storm and sunshine, glimmer and gloom—all these we can enjoy as we sit in our sheltered room, as the changing years roll on. Dark rooms bring depression of spirits—imparting a sense of confinement, of isolation, of powerlessness, which is chilling to energy and vigor, but in light is good cheer. Even in a gloomy house, when the walls and furniture are dingy brown, you have but to take down the dingy curtains, open wide the window, hang brackets on either side, set flower pots on the brackets, and ivy in the pots and let the warm air stream in.

ENGAGEMENT RINGS.—In an article on engagement rings a French writer says: Do not choose the ruby, it is too showy, loud and indiscreet. Good taste inclines toward the sapphire and diamond, of which the one does not go well together without the other. Do not choose a large sapphire surrounded by diamonds, but ask your jeweller-artist to interlace in happy combination the sapphire and the diamond.

The turquoise is also a tasteful stone, but when it is constantly worn it has the immense disadvantage to change color, and to this change most women attach a sad and sentimental superstition. It should not, therefore, be chosen for the first present, which is to be worn and cherished while life lasts, which remains from the days of youth while everything else changes.

PROFIT IN USING TAFFY.—An ice peddler while going the rounds on the Hill, Rondout, this morning, was asked by a woman how much he would charge her for a cake of ice.

He told her.

The woman expressed surprise, and said that the man who generally brought her ice did not charge her near as much as he did.

But, madam, answered the peddler, my ice does not melt away like other ice, and is worth more. The hotter the weather is the better my stock stands it.

Oh, well, if that's so, I will take a cake, responded the delighted woman.

When "taffy" is fed to the right kind of people it will stretch a good ways!

There was a man hanging around the railroad junction at Union Springs, Ala. where we had to wait two hours, who was terrible to look at. I can't begin to make you understand how much fiercer and more bloodthirsty than a common pirate he appeared. The butt of a revolver peeped out on his right hip, and another on his left hip, and the handle of a bowie knife stuck out of his shirt in front. He wore a sombrero of gigantic size, and he had his pants in his boots. He had a fierce goatee and mustache and his eyes were as black as midnight.

This awful man swaggered up and down the platform, and spat and smoked and swore. I made calculation in pencil on the end of my trunk, and figured that he could get away with six of us in about seventeen seconds. It was a fraction over seventeen, but I gave him the benefit of the doubt. There were seven of us, but the seventh man was so short and slim and sickly looking that I didn't count him in. In case of a riot and the six of us being killed he would probably be spared as not worth the ammunition necessary to despatch him.

About half an hour had gone by when the awful man with the arsenal stopped before the little man, looked down upon him in supreme contempt, and gruffly demanded,—

'Well, chicken, what brought you here?'

'None o' your business!' was the prompt and emphatic reply.

'W-what?' exclaimed the man-killer, in tones of astonishment, and moving a step nearer.

'None o' your business, sir!'

For a few seconds the awful man was stunned at the little man's temerity. Then he rolled his quid over, collected a mouthful of tobacco juice, and deliberately ejected it across the little man's boots. A clock couldn't have ticked ten times before the slim and sickly chap was on his feet, had a derringer within four feet of the big man's nose, and in a voice which was a sort of a hiss, he said,—

'Up with your hands, or I will kill you stone-dead!'

There was a slight delay, caused by the big man's astonishment. Then his big arms went up, and a blue-white look chased all other colors out of his face.

'Keep them up if you want to live!' cautioned the little man, and he advanced, picked out the weapons one by one flung them over his head into the grass. When he had finished, he said,—

'Now go, and if you come back here I will kill you!'

The big man went down the platform without a word, jumped off at the far end, and during the half mile we had him in sight on the track he never turned his head.

When he had disappeared the little man returned to his trunk, lighted his cigar, and as we looked at him with open mouths, he carelessly explained,—

'He might have hurt some of us before he quit fooling around.'

SUBJECTS FOR THOUGHT.

Many of the influences now cast around children are actually educating them to unhappiness. Particularly this is done by instilling a disproportionate care, and anxiety about little things. Not only is the child admonished and reproved about hundreds of really trivial matters, thus raising them in his mind to the level of serious offences; he also sees those around him whom he respects and loves full of worry and disquiet about small annoyances; he hears them criticising trifling mistakes or delinquencies in their neighbors, detailing petty grievances, complaining of little discomforts, craving all sorts of small luxuries, and he becomes accustomed to see them usually occupied with matters that ought to be treated as comparatively insignificant. This spirit is inevitably infused into his receptive mind, and thus the seeds of selfishness, narrowness, cowardice, and unhappiness are effectually sown.

It has been said that the best answer to calumny is silence. Great men who have a claim upon history to contradict after their death the falsehoods which have been put in circulation concerning them in their lifetime can afford to adopt this sentiment as the rule of their lives; but men and women who are not great should tread down and crush the viper's eggs of slander before fresh broods of vipers are hatched. Uncontradicted slanders are like the dragon's teeth sown by Cadmus, which sprang up a crop of armed men—with this difference, that the dragon's teeth came up in one crop, and that was the end, while the slanders sown broadcast spring up in ever-increasing crops as the years pass by.

Men who are drunk with ambition, wealth, or fame, or position, and are straining every nerve in business or politics, or any other all-absorbing object, neglecting everything else in life and pressing swiftly forward to ruined health and an early grave, are less the victims of excitement than of one-sidedness. Could they but be excited in other directions, the whole tenor of their lives would be altered. It is their torpidity to the many claims of life that paves the way to the ultra and fatal devotion to one.

There seems to be every reason to suppose that within two or three years electricity will be used for mechanical purposes as universally as it is now employed in lighting. Already the electric motor has been so far as to be available for almost every conceivable purpose. Companies have been formed which rent to factories and even to private families, machines scarcely larger than cigar boxes with a power equal to one horse, at so small a rate as \$2 per month. A machine of this sort consists of two magnets, placed on either side of a revolving armature, through which the current passes, and this, with the wheel upon which the belts revolves, constitutes the entire apparatus. The power furnished is conducted by wires to motors 300 of which may be supplied by a single battery. The belt of the motor is attached to the machine which is to work and the power is regulated by the treadle. Speed may be graduated so nicely that a sewing machine can be made to vary anywhere from a few to several stitches a minute. To women who find working on the machine wearisome or injurious the motor will be a great boon. In many factories it is already extensively used by employees to lighten their labors. For running dentist's machines, coffee mills and small printing presses it is also adapted.

BLOWING UP A SHARK.

The following curious story, containing in a letter from a young sailor who formerly lived in Ashford, has been received there: We were lying off Natal the other day when a most exciting occurrence happened. We saw two or three monster sharks playing round the ship for some time—the largest of them measuring about fourteen feet long—so we bated a line with a small piece of pork and dropped it out to him. He calmly swallowed the bait, hook and all and cut the line with his teeth, taking no further notice of it. We had then recourse to strategy. The breast of a buck which had been hanging up some time and was rather high, was weighted in order to sink it, and a hand charge of gun-cotton inserted therein, the whole being connected by wire with a boat's battery. No sooner had the vension reached the water than the shark made straight for it; but just as he opened his mouth to swallow the bait, the charge was exploded, his jaws being completely shattered. The monster turned on his back and sank in the bay.

'How old would you take me to be, Mr. Snooks?' she hisped, looking unutterable things at him.

'I dunno,' he replied, twisting nervously about on his chair.

'I'm awfully old, I assure you. I've seen twenty-three summers!'

'Then you ought to wear glasses,' he replied earnestly.

'Why, Mr. Snooks! glasses at twenty-three?'

'Yes, your eyesight must be bad.'

'I'm sure I don't know why you should think so,' she pouted.

'Because I'm afraid about twenty summers have gone by that you haven't seen.'

They were playing a nice little game of two-handed euchre and chatting pleasantly.

'Have you heard of the new game of cards?' he asked, innocently, as he dealt her a hand.

'No,' she said; 'what do they call it?'

'Matrimony.'

'Oh, she exclaimed, rapturously, 'let's play it.'

'I don't know how,' replied the thick-skulled fellow, and the girl got so mad that she wouldn't talk to him any more.

The confession of President Lincoln in reference to the way he got his education are very interesting. He says: 'When I started on a hunt after an idea I could not stop until I had caught it, and then I was not satisfied till I had put it into language plain enough for any boy I know to comprehend. This was a kind of passion with me, and it has stuck by me, for I am never easy now when I am handling a thought till I have bounded it north, east, south and west.'

In a little family discussion the other day, the madam remarked, somewhat tartly, 'When I marry again——' 'I suppose you will marry a fool,' interrupted the husband. 'Beg your pardon,' said she, 'I shall do nothing of the kind; I prefer a change.' The lord and master wilted.

It was a Maine girl of whom the story is told that she refused to marry a most devoted lover until he would have amassed a fortune of \$10,000. After some expostulation he accepted the decree and went to work. About three months after this the avaricious young lady, meeting her lover asked, 'Well, Charlie, how are you getting along?' 'O, very well, indeed,' Charlie returned cheerfully; 'I've got \$18 saved.' The young lady blushed and looked down at the toes of her boots, and stabbed the inoffensive earth with the point of her parasol. 'I guess,' said she faintly, 'I guess, Charlie, that's about near enough.'

A Creaking Hinge

Is dry and turns hard, until oil is applied, after which it moves easily. When the joints, or hinges, of the body are stiffened and inflamed by Rheumatism, they cannot be moved without causing the most excruciating pains. Ayer's Sarsaparilla, by its action on the blood, relieves this condition, and restores the joints to good working order.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla has effected, in our city, many most remarkable cures, in cases which baffled the efforts of the most experienced physicians. Were it necessary, I could give the names of many individuals who have been cured by taking this medicine. In my case it has worked wonders, relieving me of

Rheumatism,

after being troubled with it for years. In this, and all other diseases arising from impure blood, there is no remedy with which I am acquainted, that affords such relief as Ayer's Sarsaparilla.—R. H. Lawrence, M. D., Baltimore, Md.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla cured me of Gout and Rheumatism, when nothing else would. It has eradicated every trace of disease from my system.—R. H. Short, Manager Hotel Belmont, Lowell, Mass.

I was, during many months, a sufferer from chronic Rheumatism. The disease afflicted me grievously, in spite of all the remedies I could find, until I commenced using Ayer's Sarsaparilla. I took several bottles of this preparation, and was speedily restored to health.—J. Fream, Independence, Va.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla,

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists. Price \$1; six bottles, \$5.

A young midshipman lately went out to join his ship. He was met on deck by the captain, who said: 'Well, youngster, so you've come to join us. I suppose it's the old story—the fool of the family, eh? Haw, haw!' To which the middy cutely replied, 'Oh, no, it's like everything else all changed since your day.' The captain decided not to pursue the question.

A Wonderful Clock.

A clock-manufacturing firm in Calcutta, India, have lately completed a very ingenious time-piece in the shape of an eight-day clock, which strikes the hours on a large, full-toned gong, and chimes the quarters on eight bells.

In connection with the clock there is a perpetual calendar which gives the correct days of all the various months, including the twenty-nine days of February in the leap year.

There is also a military procession worked by the clock, representing various branches of the British army, consisting of artillery, cavalry, and infantry, and the staff in review order. There is also a sentry on duty who salutes a drummer, who beats the drum, and a bugler who raises his bugle to his mouth every few minutes.

All of these figures are arranged at the top of the dial.

There is also a musical instrument, which plays while the procession is marching in review.

Near the bottom of the clock is placed a military band which is concealed by a curtain, and which is raised every hour when the music is playing, and the procession moving, and falls again immediately after the clock has struck, and remains drawn until the next hour.

The case, made of ebonyized mahogany, is about six feet high, three feet six inches wide, and two feet six inches deep, highly ornamented with brass trimmings.

The circles on the dial to show minutes, hours, days of the month, etc., are engraved and silvered. The center and sides of the dial are richly enameled. At the sides of the case are massive brass ornamental handles and ornamental fret-work.

A Sensible Girl.

A Philadelphia girl declined to "kiss the book" before a Philadelphia magistrate, saying:

'The witness who kissed before me had sore lips, and the one who came before him chewed tobacco. I will not kiss the book.'

Language of Precious Stones.

The quality of turquoise imparts prosperity and love.

Chrysolite was used as an amulet against evil passions and despondency.

The opal imparts apprehension and insights, and is the emblem of unrealized hope.

Conjugal felicity was symbolized by the sardonix, which it was believed to insure.

The topaz was thought to promote fidelity and friendship and to calm internal passions.

The properties of the amethyst are to calm the passions of the body and prevent drunkenness.

The diamond has the mystic symbolism of light and purity, faith and uprightness of character.

The bloodstone was thought by the ancients to impart courage, prudence, fortitude and stability of character.

Garnet or caruncle represents constancy of purpose and fidelity to duty. It is pre-eminently the soldier's gem.

The moonstone was the emblem of the merchant prince, and signified well-directed industry and the arts of peace.

The ruby was thought to guard against unkindness, and particularly that form so common in antiquity—poisoning.

The sapphire signifies modesty and charity of opinion, and was thought to possess the power of breaking the spells of magic.

The agate or chalcedony represents physical prosperity, and it is the stone of the athlete and physician, and parts longevity and health.

The emerald symbolizes truth, and was believed to secure good faith and happiness in friendship and home.

AUGUST 14.

NEW GOODS

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John J. Weddall's,

Silk Plushes,

DRESS GOODS,

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CORSETS,

HOOP SKIRTS

BUSTLES.

JOHN J. WEDDALL

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A good fitting suit of clothes is what everyone wants, and there is no reason why they should not have it.

Thos. W. Smith is now receiving his fall stock of Cloths, consisting of the very best makes, and the latest designs; and his general Cutter Mr. James A. Robinson, being ably assisted by Mr. C. E. Collins, a first-class Pressman, is willing to warrant every garment made in this establishment in both fit and workmanship, unsurpassed by any other establishment in the trade. We solicit an inspection of our stock, which will be shown by the affable Messrs. E. McGarrigle and W. J. Crowlson, who will be delighted to show the goods, and take orders. With such a genial and competent staff of aids, the subscriber feels assured, that everyone who favors him with a call, will receive every attention and be kindly treated whether they leave their orders or otherwise.

We have always in stock the best and cheapest line of gent's furnishing goods; men's and boys' fur and felt hard and soft hats, very cheap also.

The balance of our trunks and valises we are selling regardless of cost, in order to clear them out.

The balance of men's and boys' boots and shoes are being cleared out at a sacrifice.

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