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"ASTRA'S" TALKS WITH GIRLS.

[Correspondents seeking information in this department should address their queries to "Astra," Progress, St. John.]

There is one thing I would like to impress upon my correspondents with a permanency that will put to shame the best indelible ink, any travelling agent ever vouches for. I have thrown out gentle hints, already, upon the same subject, but now I must nail my colors to the mast, and beg that they will, if possible, retain the name over which they first wrote to me. Otherwise they create great confusion, because it is impossible for me to remember them by their handwriting, and if I should undertake to keep all their letters for reference, I would soon be overwhelmed with the ghosts of dead-and-gone questions, to such an extent that I should feel like "The Haunted Man." I know you sometimes have excellent reasons for choosing a new *nom de guerre*, but do please stick to the old ones when you can. Will, "Kathleen" of Moncton, kindly read amused, for "ashamed" in her answer last week, as the types worked their own sweet will with my manuscript, and so spoil the sense.

UNA.—A full description of the game of "Tiddley Winks" was published in PROGRESS of February 7th, and as it took up nearly a column of space, I am afraid I cannot repeat it here, but if you have not got the paper you can obtain it at the office of PROGRESS.

Moo, Moncton.—What an abrupt change, you have made, my dear, from the vegetable to the animal kingdom! Well, Moo, I don't see why you could not be a pansy, even though you say you are not pretty. Pansies are not all pretty, but they are all sweet. (1) I think gum chewing is an awful habit but then perhaps that may be because I never cared for it myself. Caramel chewing I consider perfectly justifiable, but the former habit really develops the muscles of the jaws to such an extent that in time it destroys the roundness of the cheeks, and makes them lean, and scraggy. Now I am sure I need not say another word against the gum chewing fad, need I? (2) Plain note paper is the proper thing, the ruled is quite out of date and considered common. (3) If your hair is long and thick, wear it in a braid, tied with ribbon, and the ends either curled or waved. No way is so becoming to a young face, and I do love to see plenty of little curls and love locks about the face. Thank you for your kind words for PROGRESS and myself.

LITTLE IGNORAMUS, St. John.—What a humble minded little girl you are, to be sure! But as the first step towards knowledge is supposed to be a consciousness of how little we know, you must be getting along famously to be able to afford to call yourself by such a name. (1.) In preparing M. S. for publication, you will find the editors of magazines much more particular about the appearance of the sheets than the editors of newspapers, many of the former utterly refuse now to accept any, but typewritten M. S., and they all have an insuperable objection to foolscap paper. I remember their favorite size is that which a half sheet of foolscap would make folded across, and cut in two. At any stationer's you can buy pads of paper such as writers use, and you will find them much cheaper than buying by the quire, besides the sheets tear off separately, and you are thus saved the trouble of cutting them, for they must always be sent to the publisher, in single pages, fastened at one corner. Another very useful size is about the width of foolscap, but only two-thirds its length. Almost any paper will do, provided it is not too thin. Write only on one side of the paper, number the sheets at the top of the page, and pay great attention to the punctuation. I notice that you do not use the note of interrogation at all, why is that? Be careful to make your commas distinctly and for a full stop a small cross is the usually accepted newspaper symbol, and catches the eye of the long-suffering printer at once. The one unpardonable sin amongst editors and printers is to roll the M.S.; always fold it, and if there are many sheets, say a small volume—send it through the post office flat, like a book. (2) It would depend entirely upon whether your mother wished to call upon your friend or not. If she wishes to do so, of course take her card, but it is not at all necessary to leave it with your own, every time you call. You have not asked too many questions at all. You ought to see some of the lists of queries I get. I am glad to think I am "nice." You are mistaken; I have lots of acquaintances, but still I don't know any of my correspondents, except by letter.

SWANSDOWN, St. John.—I don't think you need be afraid of "a sarcastic answer" to your first question; the only answer I can give is "I have often wondered about it myself, and I give it up." (2) I cannot understand the position you mention. Why should he invite her when there is a marked coolness between them? unless indeed he means it as a sort of peace offering, in which case I think I should accept it. (3) If you can bring yourself to do so, it is always better to try and find out the cause of a misunderstanding, such a little thing may set it right. I do not know what answer you could give your friends, if you do not care to tell them the simple truth—that you are quite

in the dark yourself, as to the cause. (4) I am not going to tell you to beat about the bush, so you need not be afraid. If the gentleman is a friend, why not simply say, "We shall be very glad to hear from you, if you care to let us know how you are getting on." It is so much better to say a thing plainly and naturally, and there is no reason in the world why you should hesitate to express an interest in a friend, especially when you know it will please him. Your letter was very nice indeed, and I am always glad when I can be of any use to the girls.

LOVIE, St. John.—Now, Lovie, remember that as one swallow does not make a summer, neither does one person's opinion express that of thousands of others. I did not say that all men preferred quiet girls! Why, there would not be a quiet girl left in the world if they did. Men do not at all think alike, any more than we do, so you must not feel discouraged, because I don't mind telling you for your comfort that I am the very reverse of a quiet girl myself, so if you feel low spirited about it, I should feel that way too; but you will generally find plenty of nice, quiet fellows, who think no girl so charming as the bright, happy damsel who is always bubbling over with fun and frolic, while the rollicking, lively lad, is casting loving eyes on the demure little puss, who sits in the corner with downcast eyes, and looks like a kitten who has been stealing cream. So you think you would love me if you saw me, do you? Well, that depends; you might and then again you might not, but you are not very lucky in your guess as to my personal appearance. I am not quite so old as you imagine, and I am far from being what is called "a fine woman," or, as you say, "a nice, big, clever looking woman." I am not at all large. (1) Boisterous behaviour of any kind on the street is the worst possible form, but if one is chatting with a friend, for instance, they cannot possibly be expected to repress all inclination to laugh, and as long as they do it quietly, it is all right, and very pleasant indeed to see young people enjoying themselves. It is customary both to bow, and say "How do you do?" but a bow is sufficient if you wish to be formal. Never stop a gentleman on the street to speak to him, unless you really have something very urgent to say. It would be quite proper for him to join you and walk along with you, but not for him to stop you. (2) How do you mean? If a young man accompanied you home, and it is late, the proper thing for you to do is to say good-night to him at once, on reaching your own door, and go into the house without lingering, unless it is a summer night, and your escort chances to be an old friend, when there would be no harm in a few moment's chat. (3) As the person you mention cannot possibly lay any claim to the title of gentleman, and as you only know him by sight, I should not take the slightest notice of him. You would only lower your own dignity by either speaking or writing to him, and it would do no good. (3) Your writing is as pretty as any that I ever saw, but how is it that you are not equally up to the mark in spelling and composition? Do you know that there were not more than three steps in the whole of your letter, and not one interrogation point! Now you see you were right in saying that you thought I would not be backward about telling a person what I thought of them, but I am sure you will not mind, as you know I take an interest in the girls who write to me.

ENIGMA, Fredericton.—You date your letter from Fredericton, Enigma, but I am sure you must have been in Ireland at some time or other and paid a visit to Blarney castle, but you put it so delightfully that you have made me purr as loudly as my own kitten does, when you stroke her under the chin, and I daresay I look just as simple as she does, with gratified vanity. You certainly can do it very nicely indeed. (1) Always help the guest first, unless one of the ladies should happen to be very old and entitled to special consideration. (2) I think the pompadour puff has gone out, and I am sure I hope so, for I thought it a most unbecoming way of wearing the hair. (3) I think, of course, that you have never met the right one; when you do and you are sure to come across him some day—you will not have any doubt about the matter, he will stand out in bold relief at once, and will need no crown for you to recognize him as the king. A girl like you would be far better worth having, than one who has frittered away her affections upon half a dozen beaux, till she has none worth mentioning left for her husband. You were quite right not to marry till you could do so for love; the best position in the world is poverty indeed if you do not really love the man who gives it to you. I do not think there is the slightest danger of your being an old maid, for I can assure you that there was never one yet made by destiny. There is always a love story in every old maid's life, and generally a sad one.

Look Like New.
I suppose you will invest in lace curtains this spring, that is if you can afford it. But did you ever think how nice the old ones could be made to look if they were only cleansed properly. Why they would look like new if you sent them to Ungar's and had the job done right. You just attend to this little matter. If you let Ungar do them, you won't need new ones.—A.

He Knew Her.

"Know that young lady at the piano, Mr. Blunt?" "Yes, I am slightly acquainted with her." "Well, I wish I was." "Why?" "I'd cultivate her acquaintance until I know her well enough to tell her she can't sing. Her voice reminds me of the cry of a fish-hawker. Can't you introduce me?" "With pleasure. I am her father."—Ex.

It Looked That Way.

"Charlie dear, what is a monopoly?" she asked, looking up tenderly as she rested submissively in his arms, with her dainty head nestled against his coat-collar. "Well," replied Charlie, manfully struggling to bring his mind to cope with abstruse subjects and failing altogether to get beyond concrete facts, "I sincerely hope that this is."—Ex.

"Don't you think it is time for Miranda to learn to play on some musical instrument, Edward?" asked Mrs. Sharp of her husband as the notes of their daughter's voice floated in from an adjoining room. "Yes," replied Edward, with conviction, "I do; but it should be some loud instrument, to drown her voice."—Louisville Journal.

Teacher—"Emerson Homer, you may parse the next word—universe." Emerson Homer—"Universe is a noun, common, of the feminine gender." Teacher (interrupting)—"Feminine gender, did you say?" Emerson Homer—"Yes, ma'am; Boston is her hub, you know."—Judge.

\$50.00 in Cash GIVEN AWAY.

THE Publishers of the *Fredericton Globe* will present \$50.00 in Cash as first, \$10.00 as second, and \$5.00 as a third prize, to be given to the persons sending in the largest number of words made up from the letters contained in the words "Fredericton Globe." This offer is open to paid subscribers only, and parties desirous of competing for these Cash Prizes must send in their names and P.O. address, accompanied by \$1.00 for one year's subscription to the *Globe*. No letter in the words "FREDERICTON GLOBE" to be used more frequently than it appears in those words.

In case of a tie the first sender will be entitled to the prize. Send your list in early. Write only on one side of the paper upon which you send your list. Webster's Unabridged Dictionary will govern the contest. Address: CROCKET & MACHUM, Proprietors "Fredericton Globe," P. O. Box, 315. Fredericton, N. B.

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MANUFACTURERS OF FINE CARRIAGES, SLEIGHS and HEARSES,
FREDERICTON.

To the Electors of the City of
Saint John.

At the request of a large number of the electors, I will, at the election for the office of

MAYOR,

to be held on Tuesday, the 14th of April next, be a candidate for your suffrages.

Trusting that my record at the Council Board, during my long service as a representative of Wellington Ward, is such as to justify me in asking your support.
I am, Ladies and Gentlemen, Respectfully yours,
THOMAS W. PETERS.

To the Electors of Prince Ward.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—Having been requested by a large number of the influential electors of Prince Ward to offer myself as a candidate for

ALDERMAN

I have decided to allow my name to be placed in nomination, and take this opportunity of soliciting your votes.

Yours respectfully,
JOHN RYAN.

TO GEO. A. KNOELL, ESQ.:

WE, the undersigned Electors of PRINCE WARD, would respectfully request that you will allow yourself to be placed in nomination for the office of ALDERMAN in the said Ward, at the coming election:

W. L. Prince, Robt. Maxwell, Jas. H. Pullen, C. A. Stockton, C. D. Freeman, Wm. Alwood, D. Magee, Aaron Armstrong, E. C. Jones, D. Breze, Ed. L. Rising, J. R. Armstrong, C. E. L. Jarvis, W. W. Turnbull, Peter Sharkey & Son, Jas. H. Pullen, C. A. Stockton, C. D. Freeman, Wm. Alwood, F. E. Craibe, S. L. T. Burnham, M. Reynolds, Oliver Emery, E. L. Mulholland, Frank Piffeld, L. D. Clarke, and 182 others.

To the ELECTORS of PRINCE WARD:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN—I beg to inform you that in compliance with the wishes of a large number of the electors, I have decided to become a candidate for the office of

ALDERMAN

for Prince Ward. If elected, I will devote my best efforts to advancing the interests of Prince Ward and the city in general. Believe me,
Yours sincerely,
A. H. BELL.

To the ELECTORS of QUEENS WARD.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN—I will be a Candidate for

ALDERMAN

at the Election to be held in this city on the 7th APRIL next, and would respectfully solicit your support.

I remain, Yours faithfully,
D. R. JACK.

To the ELECTORS of QUEENS WARD.

I BEG to announce that I will again be a candidate for the office of

ALDERMAN

for the ensuing year, and solicit your votes at the election to be held on Tuesday, the Seventh day of April next.

Trusting that my record during the current year will justify me in asking your support.
I am, yours respectfully,
W. WATSON ALLEN.

To the ELECTORS of QUEENS WARD.

At the elections to be held on Tuesday next, the seventh of April, I will be a candidate for the office of

ALDERMAN.

If elected, it will be my endeavor to advance the best interest of the Ward and the city generally. In soliciting your votes I deem it right to say that I am opposed to what is called the "Leary Scheme," by which annual assessment for subsidy is to be made on the rate payers to aid in building private wharves. I am,
Yours respectfully,
CHAS. McLAUCHLAN.

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