

CHARACTER IN SMOKING.

Fanciful Theories About Habits of Tobacco Users—What a Close English Observer Seem to Have Seen.

A man may possess a most secretive nature, he may have a face as destitute of meaning as a stone wall, and a manner of speech absolutely non-committal; but watch him over his cigarette; note his manner of holding it between his lips or his fingers; see how he puffs the smoke out of his mouth, what he does with the ash, if he consumes the cigarette to a mere stump or throws it away half finished, and, sure as fate, you will read his character like a book, says The Royal Magazine. Cigarettes, I said, for a cigarette, and a cigar in a lesser degree are much better character revealers than a pipe. A man sticks a pipe into the side of his mouth and puffs away, and there's an end of it. You discover next to nothing unless, indeed, he happens to puff very violently, which is a certain indication of a nervous, irritable temper. From the filling of a pipe, to be sure, many luminous little hints may be gathered. You see a man stuff his bowl quickly and lavishly, letting loose threads of tobacco dangle over the brim while he applies the match; if he is not good natured, generous to a fault, careless, indolent, quick to make friends, quick to forget them, I shall be much astonished. One notices men very often taking their cigars from an upper waistcoat pocket into which they have been stuffed. Too poor to buy themselves a cigar case? Not a bit of it, but too utterly untidy to keep one or too lazy to arrange their cigars into one. And the same men almost invariably bite the tips of their cigars, instead of using a penknife or a cigar clipper—a shocking habit that not merely fills the mouth with tobacco grit, but disarranges the outer leaf, often spoiling an otherwise excellent smoke.

The cigar once happily prepared for smoking, observe how your man holds it between his teeth. But stay! The operation of lighting has also its interest. The tobacco epicure grips his cigar not merely with his teeth when applying the match, but with the finger and thumb of his left hand also, and between every third puff draws the weed from his mouth and examines the glowing end, in order to make sure that it has been ignited equally all round.

The majority of the men hold their cigars with the front teeth and puff the smoke out on either side of it. A large minority hold them in the corner of the mouth, so that if you happen to be walking behind them on a dark night you catch sight of the glowing end protruding just below the ear. Others, again—and these, as a rule, are persons of vivacious temperament—seldom keep their cigars for two consecutive moments between their lips. They take a few puffs, and then the cigar is given a rest between finger and thumb.

A man of determined character, energetic, pugnacious, impatient, often betrays himself by giving his cigar an upward tilt while consuming it—a favorite method with a Yankee, to whom the above epithets are distinctly applicable. The contemplative, dreamy individual will let it droop towards his chin; while level-headed persons—and fortunately they form the vast majority—hold theirs horizontally. Naturally insolent people frequently omit to remove their cigar from their mouths when speaking to you, while others of a sullen, brooding disposition chew the end into horrible pulp. And is there anything more eloquent of stinginess than the habit, largely indulged in by Germans, of sticking the stump of a cigar on the small blade of a knife and consuming it until the glow almost touches the lips?

Telling Tales of Ourselves.

A man should be careful never to tell tales of himself to his own disadvantage. People may be amused and laugh at the time, but they will be remembered and brought out against him upon some subsequent occasion.—Dr. Samuel Johnson.

WEAK, NERVOUS WOMEN

Could we read the hearts of women what a vast amount of suffering would be exposed. Female weakness has produced more invalids among women than any other cause. Have you any of the following symptoms? Nervousness, Weakness, Backache, Headache, "All-Gone" Feeling, Hot Flashes, Variable Appetite, Restlessness, No Ambition, Easily Excited, Painful Periods, Bearing-down Pains, Leucorrhoea, Pimples on the Face, Pains in the Loins, Eyes Sunk, No Vital Energy, etc. We Can Cure You. It matters not who has treated and failed in curing you. Consultation by Mail is Absolutely Free, and if curable we will tell you so. Don't let surgeons operate on you. We can cure you without cutting. Our New Method treatment is mild and pleasant. Family doctors have treated you for years, yet you are not cured—they only help you from time to time. Let us cure you at your own home by our New Method Treatment. Hundreds are being cured. Why not you? We will mail you our Symptom Blank simply for the asking, and we will tell you free of charge what we think of your case. Remember, your letters are kept strictly private and confidential and are answered in plain sealed envelope. Write at once, enclosing stamp for reply. Address Dr. W. H. SAUNDERS & Co., Sta. C., Chicago, Ill. Mention this paper.

Dec 21, 1900, dwalyr.

Diminutive Watch.

The Dowager Duchess of Sutherland, who is credited with possessing the only crystal watch in existence having transparent works, made for the most part of rock crystal, had the works removed from a miniature watch and placed inside a magnificent diamond having a diameter not exceeding the depth of four lines of ordinary type. Small as this timepiece was, it is surpassed in diminutiveness to what was justly described as the "smallest watch in the world," which was exhibited at the watch exhibition in Berlin recently. Made of fine gold this microscopic watch had the dimensions of a pea; that is to say its diameter of 6½ millimeters, which is practically a quarter of an inch, would equal in depth three lines of type; 480 of these watches would weigh about one pound avoirdupois, if there existed anyone possessing a heart sufficiently adamant to permit so brutal a weight as avoirdupois to be applied to so delicate a mechanism. Made of gold and valued at £400, this tiny watch boasts a minute hand as long as an ordinary sized letter "l," and a half in length, and a second hand one sixteenth of an inch long that would demand an incursion into the nonpareil font to supply a suitable illustration.—Good Words.

Read Biography.

Boys and girls who dislike the biography they are so earnestly advised to read should hear what Lytton says:

"When some one sorrow that is yet reparable gets hold of your mind like a monomania; when you think because heaven has denied you this or that on which you had set your heart, that all your life must be a blank, oh, then diet yourself on biography—the biography of good and great men. See how little space one sorrow really makes in life; see scarce a page, perhaps, given to some grief similar to your own and how triumphantly the life sails on beyond it! You thought the wing was broken. Tut, tut! It was but a bruised feather. See what life leaves behind it when all is done—a summary of facts far out of the region of sorrow and suffering, linking themselves with the being of the world. Yes, biography is the medicine here."

MEN!

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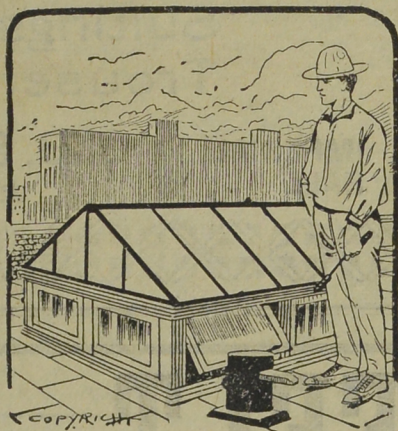
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