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Twentieth Century Etiquette (Part 2)

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CHAPTER XVI.

TELEPHONING—BUSINESS AND SOCIAL

"Speech is the index of the mind."

—SENECA.

THE telephone is certainly one of the most useful and one of the most invaluable blessings the business or social world has ever enjoyed. And yet, like all good gifts, there is not one which is so abused, and where the ethics of good manners are so often ignored. It may seem to some that rules for its proper conduct are superfluous, but when we listen to the complaints, "not loud but deep," which the waiting crowd utter when someone "holds the wire," we feel that a few brief hints can be well inserted here.

In the earlier days of the telephone, it was very natural that many should make use of it, from the charm of novelty—the delightful thought that a friend who was perhaps a mile or two away, could be reached as easily with the voice as if he were sitting in one's own drawing-room. But now that the novelty has worn off, and its use has settled down to a plain matter of fact, it is proper to remember that it is a public servant—that it is intended for general use, and should not be monopolized by one or two.

One piece of rudeness perpetrated is the calling up of people at all sorts of inconvenient hours, and keeping them at the 'phone while you recount some trifling bit of news or annoy them with personal matters which should never be retailed in so public a place.

This habit is particularly noticeable in some of the large stores where telephones have been put up for the accommodation of patrons. A lady enters the box, and after securing the attention of the one she desires, she will chat and laugh and pass nonsense over the wire, all the time utterly oblivious of the crowd of angry women (whose time perhaps is valuable) who are inwardly fuming at the delay the frivolous holder of the 'phone is causing them. This evil has become of such proportions

as to necessitate the posting of instructions limiting the use of the 'phone in each individual case. A little regard for others' rights, seasoned with a dash of good manners, would teach every user of the telephone how not to transgress.

HOW TO USE THE TELEPHONE

Stand near the telephone, place the receiver to your ear, after having rung the bell, hold your lips close to the transmitter, and, after the person whom you desire to hear from has made himself known, talk in a low, even tone of voice. Many make the mistake of shouting, and thus defeat their own intention of conversing.

INVITING BY TELEPHONE

This is never excusable, save among very intimate friends. Or a message may be received of the intended visit of some one whom you know is very anxious to meet a certain friend. Your time may be so limited that the shortest and quickest way to reach her is by telephone, and you avail yourself of the instrument. But you should offer a word of apology for asking her in so public a manner.

Sometimes ladies take advantage of this method to force a gentleman into paying them a call or accompanying them to some friend's house, knowing that over the 'phone they would scarce refuse what they would gladly do, had they been given time to decide.

A lady may communicate with her husband, any member of her family, or her business agent in this manner with perfect propriety. A physician can be summoned in the same way. She can also give her order to her grocer or butcher over the wire. In fact, there are many occasions where the telephone seems an important adjunct to daily life.

LEAVING THE 'PHONE

After summoning the friend whom you desire to reach, do not leave the telephone, nor engage in conversation with anyone near. This is the acme of rudeness, and deserves a severe reproof. State your business in the briefest manner, waste no time, and carry on your conver-

sation in as modest and unassuming a way as you would were your friend in your presence.

RUDENESS TO TELEPHONE OPERATORS

Never express yourself impatiently or rudely to the telephone assistants. You cannot harm them, and you will accomplish nothing, only the stirring up of a useless anger. They have a thousand demands upon their services, and some most unreasonable ones. If they are not always as courteous or ready to respond as you think they should be, bear with them politely. A lady or gentleman can be so under all circumstances.

PERSONAL CULTURE

We cannot here enumerate and give proper usages for all the points that might come up regarding the proper use of the telephone, any more than we can enumerate the rules to be observed on all other occasions in life. The highest culture which was manifested in the well-bred people of Athens at the time of Plato, the well-bred people of Rome at the time of Augustus, the well-bred people of Constantinople at the time of Justinian, the well-bred people of Florence at the time of Lorenzo de Medici, or of the well-bred people of Paris at the time of Louis XIV., and is being manifested in popular parlors of our own time, is entirely due to the consideration each has of the other's feelings.

LAW OF RIGHT

Where the greatest culture manifests itself, there is to be found also the greatest regard for the Law of Right—where a restraining influence is put upon self-conceit, self-assertion and various vulgarities and self-indulgences that tend to make others unhappy. By this general repression no one person can monopolize all the attentions, without running the risk of being considered a bore.

People can sometimes pardon the common irregularities of the senses, but not the selfishness of the heart. Let us remember this and keep our hearts with all diligence, for out of them are the issues of life;

and from them proceed all that pure in thought, sincere in purpose and noble in action.

“Think truly, and thy thought
Shall the world’s famine feed;
Speak truly, and thy word
Shall be a fruitful seed;
Live truly, and thy life shall be
A great and noble creed.”



CHAPTER XVII.

SOCIAL ETIQUETTE AT WASHINGTON

"A man may with more impunity be guilty of an actual breach either of real good breeding or good morals, than appear ignorant of the most minute points of fashionable etiquette."

—SCOTT.

THE code of rules governing social life at Washington differs from that of all other cities. Here the social question becomes one of great magnitude, and the visitor to that city, even though accustomed to the usages of good society elsewhere, will find an entirely new experience on visiting the nation's capital. Society there takes its tone from official life. It is composed of official personages from other lands as well as our own, who represent governments and who necessarily have a dignity to maintain. Consequently the rules governing here do not apply to any other section of our country.

WHO ARE THE LEADERS

The men there have precedence through the offices which they hold. Women rule by virtue of their husbands' official position. It is true that in a republic all men are equal before the law. But that does not excuse them from honoring the office to which they have been called by the people, and they should exact the privileges and respect which their position confers upon them.

A writer of authority, referring to the etiquette of life there, says, very pertinently:

"We have no 'court circles,' nor do we expect to remain a republic and at the same time ape 'court' manners. We have a social as well as a political autonomy. Let us preserve these with an equally jealous care and dignity. Our official etiquette is not intended as a personal compliment, but addresses itself to the office borne, so that it remains strictly in harmony with our Republican sentiments. When the incumbent leaves the office to which he has been called, he becomes again

simply a private citizen, whom the republic has honored. This is such a very beautiful provision of our legal Constitution that we should never lose sight of its bearing on social life and manners. It is the counter-acting and saving element, as opposed to all hereditary distinction, and holds each man and woman intact in the exercise of their talent, by which he or she may regulate the individual destiny. The very words 'Republican court,' have a fatal sound of Cæsarism; and, as we have already remarked, words become facts—they are the expression of the soul's aspirations. We should prove to the world that Republican manners are the very acme of true elegance in their unaffected simplicity."

THE FIRST GENTLEMAN IN THE LAND

The first gentleman in the land is the President. He leads social as well as official life. He is always alluded to as "the President," even by his wife. He can be approached by any one as the privilege of calling upon him is accorded to all, but he need never return a visit.

He may stretch a point, and call upon a friend, but this concession is not expected of him. The same rule applies to the wife of the President.

CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT

When a private call is made upon the President, the visitor is shown into the Secretaries' room, presents his card, and awaits the result. A business caller has the preference over one who merely makes a formal call.

If a person has an object in keeping an interview with the President, it will aid him greatly to secure an introduction through some official, or a friend of the Executive.

RECEPTIONS AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Receptions are given at the White House at stated times, which all are at liberty to attend. As the caller enters he gives his name to an usher, and is announced. He then approaches the President, and is introduced to him by some official to whom this duty has been assigned.

A word may be exchanged with the President; sometimes when the crowd is very great, a bow is all that is possible. The guest can then pass through the rooms, or can leave at once, as his taste inclines him.

These receptions, or "levees" as they are termed, are exceedingly informal. No "full" dress is required—you can attend in your walking costume if you so desire. Forms are omitted, also. You enter the vast hall, an official announces you, and you proceed at once to the President and his lady, and pay your respects. They exchange a word or two with you, and, as we said in the preceding paragraph, you can loiter a short time greeting acquaintances, or you can retire from the scene.

INVITATIONS FROM THE PRESIDENT

An invitation from the President to a state dinner must not be disregarded. It is even expected that you will decline another engagement in favor of the more important one, and your excuse that you have received an invitation from the President is sufficient.

NEW YEAR RECEPTION

The President with his family holds a New Year reception, which is a very brilliant affair. Ladies and gentlemen attend it alike, and all the officials, diplomats, etc., are to be found there. The foreign legation appear in full court dress. The guests are all in holiday costume, but the ladies do not remove their hats, save the members of the President's family, who receive in reception toilettes, without hats.

WHO IS NEXT IN RANK

Next in order comes the Chief Justice. His office being for life, he seems to have precedence over the Cabinet and Senate. He is addressed as "Mr. Chief Justice." The Vice-President follows him in rank, with the Speaker of the House, the General of the Army and the Admiral of the Navy. Members of the House of Representatives call first on all these officials.

The duties of the ladies of the Cabinet are very burdensome. They are expected to give a reception every Wednesday, at which anyone

who chooses can present themselves. They return all the first calls of their lady guests, and leave the card of the cabinet officer, and an invitation to an evening reception. When it is taken into consideration that they stand for hours receiving, and have two or three hundred calls to make after one of their receptions, we think any fashionable lady will declare the demands made upon her own time easy by comparison.

The wife of the Chief Justice, although expected to hold numerous receptions and receive calls, is alone, of all the ladies at Washington, exempt from the duty of returning calls.

HOW TO WRITE TO THE PRESIDENT

In writing to the President, he should be addressed as "The President—Sir." In speaking to him he is designated as "Mr. President." All other officials are addressed as "Mr. Vice-President," "Mr. Speaker," "Mr. Senator," "Mr. Secretary," while a member of the House would be plain "Mister," unless he had another title. In introducing the latter he would be called "The Honorable Mr. ——— of ———," naming the State he represented.

"Among the duties of the cabinet officers is that of entertaining Senators, Representatives, Justices of the Supreme Court, members of the diplomatic corps, and the distinguished people who gather at the capital. Ladies of the families of these officials are included in the invitations. The season for dinners lasts during the session of Congress. All other officials, except the President and cabinet, entertain or not, as they choose. The official position imposes no particular social obligations, and circumstances, health, and all the reasons and motives that influence men and women in private life to entertain or not to entertain are taken into consideration in Washington life, and the question is decided accordingly.

"The visiting hours in Washington are from two until half-past five. As is true in many other cities, many of the very fashionable ladies prefer to walk in making calls in fine weather, and many of the richest visiting costumes are made up as short suits."

It is an absolute fact that the visiting list of a Cabinet officer's family must represent from two to three thousand names.

RECEPTION DAYS

There are certain days allotted for certain classes of society to receive. Thus the families of justices of the Supreme Court are at home on Monday. The Speaker of the House of Representatives, as also other members, and the General of the Army, keep open house on Tuesday. Wednesday is called Cabinet day, and the wife of each Secretary is expected to be at home on the afternoon of that day. Thursday is set apart for calling upon the families of the Vice-President and Senators, while Friday is the great calling day for all who hold no official rank. Saturday is thus left as reception day at the White House. Guests always hand their cards to the usher at all receptions.

These receptions are designed to answer in lieu of calling upon strangers who go to Washington. As in theory every citizen has helped elect an official, and is entitled to some recognition at their hands, and as it would be manifestly impossible for the families of public officials to call first on the many strangers who visit our capital, it has grown into a custom for our officials to throw open their houses on certain days, thus affording all a chance to be present at these informal receptions. From the time of Washington until the administration of Jackson, strict rules of etiquette were observed, and life at the White House was as ceremonious as at any Old World court, but "Old Hickory" broke down the barriers, and inaugurated these public receptions, whether with advantage to social life or not we leave our readers to judge.

Receptions are in order from the first of January until the beginning of Lent. Dinners are given until Congress adjourns.

ABUSING PRIVILEGES

It is a fact that the privilege which is thus afforded transient visitors is sadly abused, for people will intrude upon those with whom they have nothing in common, and to whose social circle they could never under any other circumstances gain admission. It argues a lack of delicacy of feeling, and is a rudeness never perpetrated by refined ladies

or gentlemen. We do not refer to the receptions. Those are given in a hospitable spirit, which extends its favors to all; but to that class of sight-seers that will call upon private citizens with whom they have not even a common acquaintance. The only redress that can be had is not to return such visits, else would every private individual be completely at the mercy of every one who went to Washington. As an instance of this abuse of good manners, we quote from Miss Hall, who says:

"Common-sense ought to teach people that to a card reception (that is, where the guests are all invited by card) no one save those specially invited have a right to go; but the Washington tourist is very unreflecting. Where he sees a number of carriages standing before the door of a mansion, he immediately enters thereat; and whether he is one, or whether he is two hundred, makes absolutely no difference in his view of the situation. The result of his theories is naturally disastrous. No private house can hold an unlimited number of people; and where the uninvited throng in such numbers, the invited guests are unable to gain admission. A Washington lady received cards for a reception given by an official. It was a little late when she started, and on her arrival in ——— Avenue, she found a surging throng of people in and around the door of the house where the reception was to be held. After striving with the crowd for an hour or more, and reaching only the vestibule of the mansion, she and her escort gave up the attempt to gain further admittance, and went home without having been to the party at all! It transpired afterward that an excursion of two hundred people had arrived in Washington on that day, and had attended Mr. ———'s reception en masse!"

WHO NEED NOT ENTERTAIN

Senators, Representatives, and other officials, need not entertain unless they wish to. The President and Cabinet officers are compelled to, by the laws of Washington etiquette.

One peculiar feature of life at Washington will strike the visitor, who is at all observant, and that is, the retirement in which young people are kept. They attend the receptions with their elders, but they

do not lead or rather tyrannize over society, as they too often try to do in some cities not nearly so cosmopolitan as Washington. A young lady would not think of taking a seat until her mother or the married ladies of the party were provided for. Young ladies are not invited either to state or formal dinners, but all the simpler forms of gayety are always left for their participation.

At morning receptions, a cup of chocolate is usually tendered the guest—some add other drinks, with with tempting confections. The simplest refreshments are the most proper, however.

LEAVING CARDS

On making visits, it is the custom among all well-bred persons to send in or leave a card. When the person called upon is not at home, turn down the right-hand upper corner of the card to show that you came in person. When you go away from the city, leave or send a card in which "P. P. C." is written on one of the lower corners, "P. P. C." meaning *Pour Prendre Conge*—to take leave. When a lady leaves



HIGH LIFE IN WASHINGTON

Washington with the intention of returning at some future time, she sends these cards by mail to such of her friends as she desires to continue an acquaintance with, and when she has come back friends may call upon her as soon as they learn of the event, or she can send them cards with an "at home" day specified upon them.

When one end of a calling card is turned down, it always signifies a call in person, at Washington.

The usual hours for calling are from two to five p. m. A visit in the evening presupposes a certain degree of social acquaintance, and should never be made as a first call.

TITLES FOR LADIES

A custom which is growing in favor is to address the wives of dignitaries by the titles which indicate the honors of their husbands, as "Mrs. Senator Durborow," "Mrs. Admiral Dewey," "Mrs. General Lawton," "Mrs. Secretary Gage." Most of such customs, although at first rather out of keeping with our simple Republican tastes, become familiar to us by usage and seem eminently fitting.

CHAPTER XVIII.

CALLING—WHEN AND HOW

*“True friendship’s laws are by this rule expressed,
Welcome the coming, speed the parting guest.”*

—POPE.

CALLING is so intimately interwoven with society’s laws that not to know when to call, how to call and on whom to call, would be an unpardonable breach of etiquette. Society exacts of woman minute attention to little formalities which would be excused in a man in this land, where the sterner sex are almost to a unit immersed in business or politics.

Formal calls in the city are intended to serve in lieu of the more genial and lengthy visits which are a part of country life; and are designed to cement the acquaintance with all whom you admit to your circle.

MORNING CALLS

These do not mean, as the title would imply, calls made in the forenoon, but embrace the hours from one to five p. m. They are generally of fifteen or twenty minutes’ duration. Should another lady call, make your own stay even more brief than this. Conversation should be on agreeable topics. Inquire first after all the inmates of the home, then pass on to the subjects of the day, the last new book, or latest fashion in dress.

Never canvass an absent acquaintance, or repeat anything which has happened in another house where you have been received as a guest.

ON LEAVING

When you are ready to go, say so, rise at once and take leave of your hostess, who may accompany you to the door. If there is a servant, the hostess will most likely ring for her to show you out, meanwhile keep-

ing you engaged in conversation until the very moment of your departure.

Some fashionable women adopt the English custom of rising only at the leave-taking, but we prefer our own way of going to the door with them.

WHAT NOT TO DO

Do not declare, the moment you enter, that you cannot stay an instant. You came to make a call. Let it be agreeable and free from fussiness, and do not make your leave-taking a prolonged one. We have seen many people who were going at once, and yet who would compel their hostess to stand for several minutes, while they lengthened their parting into quite a visit, and wore the patience and good-breeding of their entertainer almost threadbare.

KEEPING A MEMORANDUM

When your list of acquaintances is an extensive one, it is a wise plan to keep a regular visiting book. Any little blank book can be made of use, by ruling off spaces for the names of your friends, calls made and to be made, also leaving room for future engagements.

EVENING CALLS

Calls in the evening are made from eight to nine, and should be of an hour's duration. The hostess rises on the entrance of her visitors, and offers them her hand, leading them to a seat. She must have tact and geniality, so as to draw out the best ideas from her visitors. Most women possess this quality, and therein lies their charm.

REMAINING AT WORK

If you are engaged upon any piece of work when callers come, lay it aside. But when an informal friend or one of long standing enters, sewing, crocheting or fancy work, may be continued, if it does not interfere with friendly conversation.

NOT AT HOME

That polite fib "Not at home" should be shut out of good society. It is far more honest to send word that one is engaged. A lady need not deny herself to any one, if she will have regular days for receiving. The dress should be very handsome on these days; and the lady who calls should be equally richly attired.

Delay in proceeding to the parlor is rude, unless engaged in some important occupation which cannot be laid aside. If that is the case, send word that you will be at leisure in a few moments and make your appearance promptly at the time specified.

KEEPING ON ONE'S WRAPS

The outer wraps are retained while making calls, the brief time allowed for remaining making it unnecessary to remove them. If a lady is fearful of taking cold by keeping her wraps on, she may ask permission to take them off, and they can be laid on any convenient chair.

CONDUCT WHILE WAITING

While waiting in the parlor for the lady on whom you call to appear, the piano must remain untouched, as also the bric-a-brac. Sit quietly in the place the servant has assigned you, and rise when the hostess enters.

CALLING FIRST

In the country and at watering-places those who were there first call upon the later comers. In England the lady highest in rank calls first. Here the older lady has the precedence, and she can make the first advances by inviting the younger one to call, or sending her an invitation to some entertainment.

CONGRATULATORY CALLS

Calls of congratulation upon a young lady after her engagement is announced should be made. All those who have received cards call

upon the parents of the bride as well as upon the young couple themselves. A call made upon a happy mother should not be made within a month after the advent of the little one.

CALLING ON MEN

A lady should never call on a gentleman save professionally or officially. She should knock at his door, send in her card, and be as ceremonious as possible. It is very bad form to make a social call on a gentleman at his office; even the most intimate acquaintance does not warrant it.

INVITING ANOTHER LADY

A lady can take the liberty to invite another lady to accompany her in calling. A gentleman never should do so, without first asking permission of those upon whom he intends calling.

CALLING ON STRANGERS

When a stranger comes into a town, the residents should call on her. In a city, the immediate neighbors should pay her the compliment of calling, although we regret to say that many ladies neglect this act of hospitality under the pretext that they don't know anything about their standing. This is a flimsy excuse. They should call first, and if the parties are not desirable as acquaintances, it is a very easy matter to drop them.

CALLING ON THE SICK

When calling on the sick do not ask to be admitted to the sick room. Your card can be sent to the invalid, whose quiet will not thus be intruded upon. If it is proper for you to enter the chamber of the sick person, you will receive an invitation to do so from the friends.

CALLING CARDS

The style of calling cards changes so frequently that a set form cannot be laid down. But the English and German text and the fancifully ornamented cards so much affected at one time have yielded the field to a



AN ALUMNI BANQUET

"It is not the quantity of the meat, but the cheerfulness of the guests, that makes the feast."

—LORD CLAENDON.



DRESSED FOR A WEDDING

more elegant and chaste fashion which seems to suit the growing taste so well that there is little danger of any very striking changes being made in that direction, at least for a long time to come. The plain, unglazed card with fine engraved script is always elegant. A card is but a bit of pasteboard, and would seem to be of no consequence, and yet it is a silent messenger which vouches for the cultivation and familiarity with good usages of its owner.

QUALITY OF CARD

The first desideratum in a card is fineness of texture; then size and shape. The lettering must also be selected with care. There should be no glazing upon the card, and the engraving should be done in the finest script. In case your engraved cards are exhausted, write name with pencil, not pen, in case of emergency.

GENTLEMEN'S CARDS

The card carried by gentlemen should be small and engraved, and does not contain a gentleman's address.

MR. WILLIAM BATES ROBB

If he has a title it should be placed before his name. It is said that the Hon. Daniel Webster and also Henry Clay both preferred their names printed upon their cards, thus—"Mr. Webster;" "Mr. Clay."

WIDOW'S CARDS

A widow should not use the initials of her deceased husband upon her cards. She should use the following form:

"Mrs. Lizzie Brown Stevens."

But during his lifetime her card should read:

"Mrs. Edward Stevens,"

the object being to prevent confusion should there be other sons in the same family who were married.

Husbands and wives no longer use the same cards, but each has a separate visiting card.

PREFIXES

It is an undeviating rule that young ladies prefix the "Miss" to their names upon their cards, the elder of the daughters omitting the given name. Never use nicknames. The same rule applies to a married lady, who should never omit the prefix "Mrs."

MOTHER AND DAUGHTER'S CARDS

When a mother has a daughter who is just entering society, the card made use of is worded thus:

MRS. JOHN DAY HOWARD.
MISS HOWARD.

A young lady can have a card of her own after having been in society a year.

RECEPTION CARDS

When a lady has certain days set apart on which she receives friends, her card should indicate it by the following form:

MISS OSBORNE.
Tuesdays
3 to 6.

CHANGING RESIDENCE

When a lady removes her residence she should leave a card with her new address with those whose turn it is to call upon her. But she can send these cards by mail to all upon whom she called last.

P. P. C. CARDS

When leaving town for a protracted absence P. P. C. cards are sent, but they are not sent when leaving for a short time—as for a trip to the sea-shore, or to the country. The initials P. P. C. stand for the French words *Pour prendre conge* (meaning to take leave), and are always in

the lower right hand corner of the card, and in capitals. It is wrong to use the small letters, p. p. c. The initials P. D. A. (Pour dire adieu), mean the same, but they are not often used. These cards may be sent by mail. Many cards are sent by mail now. In England a card sent through the postoffice is considered equivalent to a visit.

MOURNING CARDS

Those who are in mourning should have cards with a black border. The border in vogue now is rather narrow. Cards should be left for people who are in mourning, but only intimate friends should seek admittance.

WHEN CARDS ARE SENT

A stranger arriving in a city sends cards to his friends so that they may call upon him. Business cards should not be made use of in making a call. When attending receptions cards should be left in the hall on entering, so as to help the hostess to remember who has called. In sending fruits, flowers, books, etc., the card of the sender should accompany them. On recovering from an illness, or when the period of mourning is ended, a card should be sent to each one who has called during these times. The following is a good form:

MISS RAND,

With thanks for

Miss Neal's kind inquiries.

NEW YEAR'S CALLS

The fashion of calling on New Year's Day fluctuates. One year it is announced that there will be very little calling done, the next year it seems as popular as ever. There is no doubt that the generous hospitality of the glad season has been greatly abused by the boldness of young men who avail themselves of the custom to intrude where they have no claim. And yet it is a beautiful custom, for this is the time when resentments are laid aside, friendships are renewed, and the pages of life are freshened.

"The practice of publishing in the newspapers lists of ladies who will receive calls on New Year's Day has often been criticised, but in some localities it has the sanction of the best society. It has many commendable features, and is best left to the good taste of those most interested. When a lady receives with a friend, instead of at her own home, cards are sent to her friends, to notify them of the fact, and give them her changed address. Cards may also be sent out when she has taken a new residence or returned from a prolonged absence from home."

CALLING HOURS

On this day the hours for calling are from 10 A. M. till 11 P. M. But if a lady becomes too fatigued, she can instruct the servant to admit no more callers. In the villages and small towns, where no special formalities are observed, but gentlemen call on their friends and tender their hearty good wishes for the opening year, the day is often enjoyed far more than in our busy centers of population, where more ceremony becomes necessary.

GENTLEMEN'S CALLS

There are certain fixed rules laid down by society, which apply to a gentleman in a small place with the same force as in a large city.

Cowper says:

"Man in society is like a flower
Blown in its native bed. 'Tis there alone
His faculties expanded in full bloom
Shine out—there only reach their proper use."

AN AID TO A GENTLEMAN

Not every man can tell whether he is at fault on small points of etiquette, and therefore such will be grateful to those who settle these matters for them. A gentleman feels diffident in regard to the code of calling, lest he trespass upon some established rule which he should have known, and which will be a guide for his conduct.

CALLING ON A LADY

A gentleman cannot consider himself privileged to call upon a lady upon the strength of an introduction alone. He may desire very much to do so, but waits to be invited. If the invitation does not come, and he is anxious to prosecute the acquaintance, he may leave his card at her residence. If he is acceptable, the young lady's mother will send him an invitation to visit the family, or ask his presence at some entertainment to be given at their home. After that it is plain sailing, and the gentleman may feel that he has a right to call occasionally.

If his card receives no acknowledgment, he may conclude that for some reasons best known to themselves, they do not wish to extend their acquaintance. And in this case, he must wait when next they meet in public for a recognition at their hands, as would any stranger.

DO NOT ACCEPT CARELESS INVITATIONS

If a lady carelessly invites a gentleman to call, without specifying the particular time, he may deem it no invitation at all, as she is more than likely to be out or engaged should he avail himself of such an off-hand permission. But if she states the time when he may call he should be prompt in keeping his engagement. If anything prevents his coming he should dispatch a messenger with a note explaining his absence. Carelessness of this sort has checked many a friendship.

THE FIRST CALL

On making a first call he must have a card for each lady of the household. When there are several sisters in a family, and the mother is living, two cards will answer—one for the mother, and one for the daughters.

The cards which a gentleman uses often are indications of his character. They are to be as simple as possible. The following will serve as a model, and is to be either written or engraved—preferably the latter.

MR. EDWIN BOOTH WHITE

The prefix "Mr." should not be used if the card is written by its owner, but in an engraved one it is adopted. The card must be of the finest texture, and lusterless.

HOUR FOR CALLING

A gentleman whose time is his own can call between 2 and 5 P. M. But as business engrosses nearly all our gentlemen, from 8 to half-past 8 in the evening is the proper time to make a social call. If he calls before that hour he may interfere with some previous engagement, and will surely displease his hostess by his untimely visit.

Married men are relieved from the task of making calls of ceremony. The wife leaves her husband's card in lieu of a call.

A FORMAL CALL

When paying formal calls a gentleman asks to see all the ladies of the family. If he calls upon a young lady who is visiting people whom he has never met, he sends in a card for the hostess at the same time that he sends in one for the young lady. The lady of the house should enter the room before his departure, to give him the assurance that any friend of her guest is welcome to her house.

ASK FOR SOME MEMBER OF THE FAMILY

A gentleman should in all cases inquire for the mother or chaperon of the young lady upon whom he calls, and if she appears he should address his conversation principally to her. But if she makes a practice of entering the parlor and remaining there during his entire call, no matter how often he comes, he should conceal his annoyance under a well-bred demeanor. The wisest way would be to take the hint thus afforded, and act upon it.

CUSTOM ABROAD

In Europe the constant presence of an elder lady during a gentle-

man's visits would be deemed only a necessary observance of etiquette, but the customs of our land are totally different.

All invitations of any sort sent to a gentleman must be promptly accepted or declined.

CALLING ONCE A YEAR

A gentleman should never neglect to make a call, when friends have returned from a summer vacation. If he does not attend to this duty, he need not feel hurt if he is left out of the invitations for the entertainments of his friends the coming season.

A gentleman may make an informal call on intimate friends at any hour that does not encroach upon their time. Don't go so often, however, that they enjoy your absence.

NEW YEAR'S CALLS

These calls are observed with varying degrees of ardor. One year they are general, the next we hear that they are not observed. But when they are not made the pretext for forcing one's self upon people who are almost strangers, they are pleasant. There is necessarily more latitude permitted in calling on that day, but still it is a good old custom.

CALL ONLY WHERE WELCOME

The gentleman who calls on the first day of the New Year confines his calls to those homes where he is sure of a welcome and upon those ladies who are formally receiving.

MAKE YOUR CALL BRIEF

A call on this day should be limited to ten or fifteen minutes, for the hostess presumably has an extensive list of friends to entertain, and cannot devote much time to any particular ones.

If she does not recognize a stranger who is introduced to her at such a time, when meeting him again, he must not feel aggrieved.

GENTLEMEN'S TOILET

The dress of a gentleman making New Year's calls should be a morning costume of dark coat, vest and tie, and dark or light pants. Dress suits are for evening calls. The gloves should be of a sober tint.

DECLINING OFFERED REFRESHMENTS

He has a right to decline refreshments. He should never accept wine or spirituous liquors, however hospitably they may be pressed upon him. He cannot afford to risk his reputation as a gentleman by taking wine at any house at which he calls.

ACCOMPANIED BY A FRIEND

A gentleman should never take the liberty to invite another gentleman to call on a lady (save on New Year's Day) without first asking her permission.

In making a ceremonious call, the hat and cane are retained in the hand, but an umbrella is left in the hall.

If you chance to call when a lady is just going out, make your stay brief, and say that you will call another time.

CARRYING CARD-CASES

Card-cases are carried by gentlemen in their pockets.

EVENING CALLS

These calls are very unfashionable for ladies, owing to the possibility of breaking in upon the plans of the family. Only the most intimate friends are entitled to make them.

An evening call should not be too long. Two hours can scarcely be dubbed a call—it is rather more of a visit. An hour will answer in most cases, and will be more likely to leave an agreeable impression upon the hostess.

LEAVE-TAKING

A long-drawn-out leave-taking is tiresome and impolite to the

hostess, as she must stand after he has risen to go, until he has left the room. If there are several ladies in the room, he should bow most impressively to the lady of the house, and make a less formal inclination to the other members of the party.

DO NOT CALL AT LUNCH HOUR

A gentleman should carefully avoid calling during the lunch or dinner hour, even upon friends, without he has been told to call at those hours, on any day. It is often said, "We dine (or lunch) at such an hour—come to see us and you will find us at home." If you call at that hour, and find a lady at luncheon, send in word that you will wait till she has finished. If she comes out and invites you to the table, either go in or take your leave at once. But don't keep her away from luncheon by remaining to pay a visit, and compel her to go without her meal. It is often done from want of thought.

LOOKING AT THE WATCH

A gentleman should not look at his watch while making a call, unless he has to catch a train, or has another engagement. In that event, he should apologize.

Gentlemen may call on married ladies with the knowledge of their husbands.

GENTLEMEN CALLING

When calling on another gentleman at a hotel send up your card, and wait for an invitation to the room. Announce yourself by a rap on the door, and do not burst in upon your friend without warning. The most intimate friendship does not warrant this freedom. If it is a lady on whom you call, send up your card, and wait her appearance in the reception room.

In calling you should not wait for an invitation to be seated, but take the most convenient seat within range of the ladies upon whom you call.

CALLING ON THE SICK

In calling upon a sick friend, send in your card, and wait until you have news from the sick room, but do not expect admission. Although, if invited, it is proper to accept.

ENGAGED

If you are met at the door of a friend's house with the statement that they are "engaged," or "not at home," which too often means the same thing, do not urge to be admitted, even though the family were among your dearest friends. You have no right to an exception in your favor if they do not care to receive you on that day.

DOGS SHOULD BE LEFT AT HOME

Do not take your pet dog with you when making a call. It is not to be expected that your hostess would care to extend her hospitality to dumb animals which perhaps she does not like. Dogs have no place in a parlor.

If ladies accompany a gentleman when he is calling, they should precede him, both on entering and leaving the room.

Do not suggest to a lady that the room is chilly or draw too close to the fire when making a call, unless it is a very cold day, and she invites you to do so.

DO NOT QUESTION CHILDREN OR SERVANTS

If you are left alone for a moment, and a child or servant comes into the room, do not presume upon good-breeding to ask them any questions about the family. A man who would do this should be debarred from the hospitality of any home.

LEAVE THE CARD-BASKET UNTOUCHED

Do not examine the cards in the card-basket. You have no right to investigate private affairs.

It is usual to wear street dress in calling—a dark suit, with gloves

of a dark shade. Light-colored suits are permissible in warm weather. Overshoes must be removed in the hall.

Be at ease and self-possessed. Listen rather more than talk. There is a happy medium between talking too much and talking too little, and the man who finds it is a fortunate being.

A FIFTEEN-MINUTE CALL

A formal call should not exceed fifteen minutes, and when that time has expired, rise and depart gracefully.

If making a call where all are strangers, at once announce your name, and upon whom you have called.

If you call on a lady and find her absent, and she expresses her regret at the occurrence when next you meet, reciprocate her regret, and do not carelessly remark that it made no difference.

THROW AWAY YOUR CIGAR

If you have been smoking on your way to make a call, throw away your cigar before you ring the bell. It is not very polite, however, to call on a lady with your clothes permeated with tobacco smoke.

A married gentleman should always speak of his wife as "Mrs. Brown," never as "my wife."

GENTLEMEN RECEIVING CALLS ON NEW YEAR'S DAY

On the first New Year's day after his marriage a gentleman receives calls at his own home, in company with his wife. He does not make any calls on that day.

Clergymen do not make calls upon New Year's Day, but receive friends at their own residence.

CALLING ON BUSINESS MEN

In calling on a business man, remember that to him time is valuable, and do not take up any more of it than is absolutely necessary. The same rule should be observed in calling upon ladies who are engaged in business. Use as little of their time as possible.

CALLS OF CONDOLENCE

A call of condolence should be made within ten days, if on an intimate footing with the bereaved ones. If you are not, at least a month should elapse. When you are admitted, do not allude to the sad event, unless those upon whom you call seem anxious that you should do so. A silent pressure of the hand, a tender and delicate deference of manner will speak far more effectively than words which are too apt to tear open the wound. It is in good taste to send a few flowers, or a book, or a simple message, to the aching hearts, such as "I send you deepest sympathy," "My love, dear friend," or "God be with you." These will reach down deep into the hearts of the mourning friends and bring them a grateful consciousness that you remember them in their affliction.

A CONGRATULATORY CALL

When a friend has distinguished herself by some special act, or has written some especially fine article, or has been called to some position of trust, it is only a pleasant duty to call on her and offer your congratulations. We all like to be appreciated, and when we have done anything worthily, it is pleasant to have our effort acknowledged by our friends.

Should several guests arrive during a gentleman's call, it is quite proper for him to avail himself of the opportunity to pay his respects to his hostess and leave.

He can do this less awkwardly than if he waits until they are seated.

A NEWLY MARRIED MAN'S LIST OF FRIENDS

When a wedding has been limited to a few relatives, or has been strictly private, the bridegroom should send his card to those of his gentlemen friends whom he wishes to introduce into his new home. The recipients of such cards should call upon the bride within two weeks.

"After one has been invited to a dinner party, one must call within a week after the occasion,—call in person, and ask if the hostess is at

home. A dinner party is one of the most solemn obligations of society; if you accept an invitation to one, only death or mortal illness is a legitimate excuse for not attending it, and you must have nearly as good a reason for not calling promptly after it."

A WORD MORE

Never make a long call if the lady is dressed ready to go out.

Never bring your mackintosh or umbrella into the reception-room.

Never make an untidy or careless toilet when visiting a friend.

Do not stay so long that your hostess will mentally wish you gone.

Emerson says regarding this:

"'Tis a defect in our manners, that they have not reached the prescribing a limit to visits. That every well-dressed lady or gentleman should be at liberty to exceed ten minutes in his or her call on serious people shows a civilization still rude."

One thing we should not forget, and that is, that the character of a person is frequently judged by the appearance of the most minute things. Therefore, young persons especially should try to conform to all the rules of society as best he or she can.

BEWARE OF THOUGHTLESSNESS

Some writer has said: Prominent among the minor sins of major import is the sin of thoughtlessness. It retards action, chafes, irritates and discourages, annuls effort and wastes power; in a word, clogs the wheels of healthful progress to a greater degree than stealing, or either of half a dozen other great sins, and yet it is spoken of as only a sort of venial sin, a misfortune, or at most a failing. To do the right thing at the right time, being heedless or thoughtless in nothing, no matter how small the detail, whether calling or in the midst of daily occupation, is the greatest recommendation in winning friends and keeping them, of any other one virtue.

How often do we hear people say, and especially boys, "You go, I do not care to," or "You take this, I do not care for it." Now these people that say this are most unselfish at heart, yet the very fact that they add, "I do not care for it," makes it appear that it is no sacrifice and that

they are giving up only what they do not care for. Would it not be better to say, "You go; I will go some other time," or "You go to-day; I shall be busy at something else." The force of this saying was brought home to me only this morning while I was calling upon a friend. Her sweet boy of ten summers had been given a nickel to spend as he chose. Like many another lad, the money all went for candy. It tasted so good that try hard as he might to save a little for his mother, with whom he always divided, he at last reached her side with only one little piece left, and even that bore marks which showed he was tempted overmuch, but he loved his mother, and he said: "Here mother, I saved this for you." The mother replied: "Well, sweetheart, it is lovely of you, but I think you would better eat it." "Oh, no, I don't want it," he said.

Had there not been a look in the corner of his eye I should have thought he only brought to his mother what he did not care for himself. The truth was, however, that he loved both, the mother and the candy so well, that lest she should insist that he should eat it he added, "I don't want it." It seems hard to correct the sweet lad for such an error, yet we must bear in mind, "Train the youth in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." It is well for us, many times, that we are judged by loving hearts. The cold, indifferent world would not be so quick to discern and pardon.

CHAPTER XIX.

DINNERS AND LUNCHEONS

"It is not the quantity of the meat, but the cheerfulness of the guests, which makes the feast."

—LORD CLARENDON.

DINNER giving is a fashionable and pleasant way of entertaining, and although we have no account of it, we do not doubt that Adam and Eve partook of their dinners with zest.

The luxurious appointments of a dinner-table to-day are in striking contrast to the past. The arrangement of a table depends greatly upon the skill and taste of the hostess. In large houses two footmen are employed, whose duty it is to lay the table, while a butler takes care of the wine and waits behind his mistress' chair. If one man-servant only is kept, he attends to everything, assisted by the parlor-maid. If only one servant is kept, and that a woman, the serving of the table devolves upon her.

WHAT HOUR TO DINE

The hour of dining varies, the middle and working classes adopting the midday hour for the most substantial and elaborate meal of the day. Others dine later in the day. Whether this is as healthful an hour as the earlier one we are not prepared to discuss; but if the hour for retiring is about eleven P. M., we see no objection to the seven o'clock dinner.

TABLE MANNERS.—CHANGE

The manners pertaining to the table have changed greatly, since we are told that although cooking had reached a high state of development among the ancient Egyptians, still they had not arrived at the dignity of separate dishes from which to eat, but all the guests sat around a table, and dipped their bread into a dish in the center.

It is interesting to note the various customs of other lands. The

ancient Greeks reclined at their meals; the use of spoons and knives was limited, while forks were unknown. The Spartans disdained the pleasures of the table, confining themselves to black bread and broth, a violent contrast to the dining-hall of Nero, the ceiling of which was inlaid with ivory, which slid back, and a rain of fragrant waters, or rose leaves, was showered on the heads of the carousers. The appointments of a Hindoo's table are simple, being the large leaves of the banana, which are used in lieu of plates. Their fingers supply the absence of knives and forks, while rice, curry, ghee, eggs, milk, fish and fruits furnish all the food they care for.

COOKS IN ESTEEM

Cooks have, in all ages of the world, been held in high honor, and the nation which has furnished some of the best is also noted for its frugality in managing the culinary department of the household. It is said that a family in France will live well upon what many an American family wastes.

Some of the most famous men have been epicures. It is related of the orator Hortensius that he had a large fish pond in which he bred fish for his table, and if one of them chanced to die, he shed tears. The Romans bred oysters and snails to gratify their fastidious appetites, and during that corrupt period there was a rage for rare and costly food. One of the emperors served a dish of the tongues of 1,500 flamingoes, while peacocks' tongues were esteemed a rare dish.

THE DINNER PARTY A FACTOR IN CIVILIZATION

Were the dinner party abolished, how much would be lost to civilization! How many great plans have been discussed, how many friendships have been formed, and how many bright sayings and sparkling thoughts have had their birth in the fostering influence of the dinner table.

The great Talleyrand declared the dinner the best meal for transacting business. Campaigns have been mapped out, and alliances between nations cemented through these sociable gatherings of society.



WAITING FOR THE HOSTESS

"Patience is bitter, but—its fruit is sweet."

—ROUSSEAU



AFTERNOON CALLS

"Choose the company of your superiors, whenever you can have it; that is the right and true pride."

—LORD CHESTERFIELD.

THE CHEERFUL HOME DINNER

The home dinner should be a most cheerful meeting of companionable and sprightly members, all interested in each other's welfare, ready to contribute their quota to the general fund of enjoyment. The dining-room should be made as bright and sunny as possible. The mistress of the house may be troubled about many things, but she should wear her pleasantest smiles at the table, that her husband and children may be refreshed in spirit as well as body. The conversation should be bright and cheery; the children can be taught many lessons of etiquette that will serve them well in after years.

FORMAL DINNERS

The more formal dinners given by those who love to entertain should be made as elegant as possible. The first step is to study those simple customs whose observance makes them charming. The finest dressed man may be a boor at the table. Every dinner should be made as good as possible, and this implies a goodly outlay of money, as well as the expenditure of taste and time. If a hostess practices method in her everyday dinners, if she has each one neatly prepared and well-cooked, the giving of a larger and more ceremonious dinner will not cause her much more anxiety—only an extra amount of time to prepare it, and the choice of a greater variety of dishes.

THE DINING-ROOM SHOULD BE CHEERFUL

The dining-room should be one of the best-lighted and most cheerful apartments in the house. Size is another requisite. Bric-a-brac, scarfs and much drapery are superfluous, as they are sadly in the way, if your guests are many. A few pictures on the wall, a sideboard with its sparkling glass and silverware, and a lounge and chairs are all that are necessary as furnishings.

HAVE A GOOD TABLE

The table should be firm and solid, and not so shaky that the guests fear some catastrophe. The extension table of ordinary size, with two

leaves added, will seat twelve persons. You cannot well seat more, on account of the large dining chairs now used. Cane-seat chairs should never be used in the dining-room. They catch beads and fringes and play sad havoc with them. The perforated wood ones are equally bad. The brass-headed nails with which they are fastened seize a lady's clothes worse than the cane, and many a delicate fabric has been ruined by them. Chairs upholstered with leather are the nicest, but oak chairs with high backs are deservedly popular, and are the most liked.

THE DISHES SHOULD SHINE

The table should be set with dishes that shine. When china or glass has the least roughness to the touch, it is an indication that it has not been thoroughly washed. The table linen at dinner should be snowy white, and smoothly ironed. There are some very beautiful effects in cream, or white with colored borders, that may be used in the place of white, if the taste inclines to them. A cloth of cotton flannel or baize should be laid under the table-cloth, to serve as a protection from the heat of the dishes, as also to prevent that noisy clatter which is so disagreeable.

Glass water-bottles (carafes) with dishes of cracked ice should be within reach of every guest.

NAPKIN RINGS NOT USED

Napkin rings should never be used, save in the strict privacy of home; for it is an open secret that the use of a napkin ring suggests the repetition of the use of the napkin—a practice highly improper with guests.

FLORAL DECORATIONS

Flowers are a great addition to the beauty of a table, and where they can be had, are as suitable for the family table as the more formal one. In the latter they are indispensable.

The dishes may be fewer at the home dinner. Let the guest whom you have invited feel that you are not making an extra effort in his behalf, else will he feel uncomfortable. On the contrary, let him see

that you are dispensing your everyday hospitality, and that he is heartily welcome. As an eminent authority on housekeeping says:

“Let no one suppose that, because she lives in a small house and dines on homely fare, the general principles here laid down do not apply to her. A small house is more easily kept clean than a palace. Taste may be quite as well displayed in the arrangement of dishes on a pine table as in grouping the silver and china of the rich. Skill in cooking is as readily shown in a baked potato or johnny-cake as in a canvas-back duck. The charm of good housekeeping lies in a nice attention to little things, not in a superabundance.”

SELECTION OF GUESTS

Great tact is necessary in choosing the guests for an informal dinner. It is so difficult to select those who will harmonize. As the intercourse is free, and social, only agreeable elements should be brought together. The important dishes are put on the table, and the hostess can dish out the soup and the host can carve. A French roll should be folded in each napkin. If there is only one servant to wait on the guests, she should be carefully trained beforehand, so that no awkward mistakes will be made. The plates should be hot, as any dinner is spoiled if hot meat is put on a cold plate, and the servant should have a napkin around her thumb, that her hands may not come in contact with the dishes. Before serving the dessert the table should be cleared of everything but the fruit and flowers, and the crumbs brushed onto a tray with a brush or crumb-scraper—the latter is the best, because usually the neatest. The plates, knives, spoons and forks may then be laid at each plate for dessert.

COURSES FOR A SMALL PARTY

A dinner for a few friends can consist of the following courses: First, soup, then fish, a roast, with two kinds of vegetables, and lastly salad, cheese, a dessert of pudding and coffee. Apples and nuts may be brought on, also. A dinner of these materials, well cooked and served up with neatness and promptness, is ample unless the occasion is a very elaborate one. It is not elaborate dishes that please most, but

the simple hospitality and unaffected heartiness of the host and hostess that give zest to the food set before the guests.

The glass-ware should be sparkling, the dishes polished to the highest degree. Unless they are carefully washed and rinsed they will have a sticky feeling, which makes a fastidious person feel uncomfortable. A well-set table is appetizing. It is a truth that the eye should be gratified as well as the palate.

DO NOT KEEP YOUR HOSTESS WAITING

Promptness at the dinner table is one of the first essentials. Be punctual to the minute. In the hall the gentleman will find a card with his name and that of the lady whom he is to take in to dinner, also a small buttonhole bouquet. If he does not chance to know her, he asks the hostess to present him. Seven o'clock is the regulation hour for a dinner party.

A gentleman is never invited to one without his wife, nor a lady without her husband, unless the husband or wife be out of the city.

Dinner is ready when the last guest arrives, and the butler makes his announcement. The host goes first with the lady to whom the dinner is given, and the hostess follows with a gentleman whom she desires to honor. This is the rule for a ceremonious dinner. The table is laid with a bewildering array of glass goblets, wine glasses, forks, knives and spoons, and a majolica plate, holding oysters on the half shell, with a piece of lemon on the plate. The napkin, folded neatly, holds a dinner roll, which each guest removes at once. Small forks are at the right of the plates for the oysters. After the oysters are eaten, two kinds of soup are passed, a white and a brown soup.

The openwork table-cloth on a red ground, the silver trays, with vases of crystal, filled with fruit and flowers, the silver-gilt vases full of bonbons and the gorgeous lamps form a picture of beauty, which impresses itself upon the beholder.

SERVING THE FOOD

At an informal dinner the food may be all placed upon the table at once before the family is seated, or, where there is a servant, she should

bring in the courses in their order. The English style is a very good one. All the dishes of a course are brought in at once, and those which are to be carved are removed to a side-table, where a servant performs that duty.

CARVING

If the carving is to be done at the table, the host must attend to it. He should be prepared with a sharp knife and strong fork. The steel should be banished from the table; it is supposed that he did all the sharpening before dinner was ready, and it certainly is not productive of much pleasure to sit patiently waiting to be served while the host is whetting his knife. He should always sit while carving. He also indicates who is to receive the first plate. The person receiving it should keep it, and pass the plates on as they are designated. When one is to help himself from a dish, he should do so before offering it to a neighbor.

THE USE OF A NAPKIN

Lay the napkin across the lap, instead of tucking it in at the neck. At a formal dinner do not fold the napkin when finished, but leave it lying loosely beside the plate. Napkins should never be starched. It is an idea which doubtless originated in hotels, where the waiters are very fond of twisting them into fantastic shapes. Table linen should be of as fine linen as consistent with means. Paper napkins are only suitable for lawn parties or picnics.

USE OF THE KNIFE -

Cut the food with the knife, but convey it to the mouth with the fork. Do not overload this little implement, but merely take as much upon it as you can hold with ease. The fork held in the right hand should be used for eating watermelons, salads, cheese, pastry and all made dishes.

EATING FRUIT

It is quite the thing to eat oranges, canteloupes, etc., with a spoon.

The side of the spoon should be used in carrying soup to the mouth. But beware, lest you make that disagreeable sound in partaking of it, which is not only offensive to the ear, but is a positive rudeness.

In eating grapes, cherries, and fruits with pits, do not eject them from the mouth, but remove them to the little plates provided for that purpose with the hand or spoon.

FINGERS CAN BE USED

There are many vegetables and fruits which are eaten in which the fingers play an important part. Among them is the artichoke, which is taken with the fingers, as is also celery. Asparagus may be taken in the fingers.

Hard cheese is broken with the fingers. Nearly all other vegetables are eaten with the fork.

HOW TO EAT GREEN CORN

Green corn is a problem, some eating it from the cob, others calling it a barbarous custom. It is the proper way, however; and we are borne out by the usages of good society.

Croquettes, patties, etc., are eaten with a fork.

THE SPOON

Strawberries are eaten with a fork unless served with cream, but in Europe, where they are much less lavish with them, they are passed around on the stem, and each berry is dipped into sugar as it is eaten.

A spoon is used in eating Roman punch. Ices are sometimes eaten with a fork, but oftener with a spoon.

In eating lettuce, the knife and fork must both be used if the leaf is large, but the fork must convey it to the mouth. A piece of bread may be used in gathering the lettuce upon the fork.

With salad, bread, butter and cheese are served, and a knife and fork are important. It is in bad form to cut up salad very fine on one's plate. Let that be done, if at all, before it is brought to the table.

Olives may be placed on the table before the guests arrive, or they

may be brought on after the soup is served. They may be taken with a spoon from the dish in which they are served, and eaten with a fork or with the fingers. It is considered equally proper to eat them either way.

Canned tomatoes, corn, etc., are eaten with a spoon usually, although with the growing use of the fork some people now use that.

Pine-apple is cut with the knife and conveyed to the mouth with a fork.

A silver knife is used in eating apples and other pared fruits. They are peeled, cut into quarters, and eaten with the fingers usually, but if the fruit is very juicy, like some pears, it is better to use a fork. It is always better to use a fork, even at the peril of seeming affected, than to offend the taste of another by using the fingers, as some careless people often do. A steel knife is never used in eating fruit, because the juice stains the steel, and it gives an unpleasant flavor to the fruit. But the steel knife and fork are coming into use with meats, as being much more useful than the edgeless silver knife.

Oranges are peeled and separated into their natural sections, although they are sometimes cut instead. They are often pared with a spoon by foreigners. To eat an orange gracefully requires some practice and skill.

Bananas are peeled and eaten with a fork.

EATING EGGS

Eggs that are boiled in the shell should be placed in an egg cup, the shell broken at one end, and then eaten from the shell.

Bread can be laid on the table-cloth by the side of the plate and carried to the mouth in small pieces. Break with the fingers.

THE CEREMONIOUS DINNER

The ceremonious dinner demands much more preparation and care than the simple family gathering. The invitations to such dinners are sent out a week previous. These read thus:

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Huntress
request the pleasure of
Mr. and Mrs. James Weston's company
at dinner on Wednesday, March 10th,
at seven o'clock.

ANSWERING INVITATIONS

An invitation of this sort must be responded to at once, accepting or declining. In the latter event, the cause should be stated plainly. If sudden illness or any other emergency arises to prevent attendance after the invitation has been accepted, word should be sent to the hostess, even if but a few minutes before the hour appointed.

ANNOUNCING DINNER

The dinner prepared, and the guests arrived, properly introduced to escorts, the servant quietly announces that dinner is ready, when the host offers his arm to the oldest lady, or to the one in whose honor the dinner is given, the hostess following with the most honored gentleman. The younger guests permit the older ones to precede them. The host and hostess may sit at the two ends of the table, or opposite each other in the middle of the table. Each lady sits at the right of her escort.

OYSTERS—HOW SERVED

Raw oysters are served on shell or plates, and placed before the guests are seated. If oysters cannot be obtained they can be omitted and the first course may then be soup. All are not fond of soup, but those who are not should not decline it, but make a pretense of partaking of it. Those who are fond of it must never ask for a second supply, and the plate must not be tilted.

REFUSING WINE

If the host provides wine, you can refuse it without giving offense. When wine is served in goblets, the glass is held by the stem.

LADIES LEAVING THE TABLE

At a sign from the hostess, the ladies all rise from the table, and

repairing to the drawing-room for their coffee, leave the gentlemen to their own devices. But it is a healthy sign that the gentlemen soon follow them. In France the gentlemen and ladies all leave the dinner table together, as indeed they do here, at an informal or family dinner.

Whether an invitation to a dinner is accepted or not, all those invited should make an after-dinner call within a very short time after the entertainment. Sending a card is not a sufficient acknowledgment of an invitation to a dinner.

LADIES' TOILETS

Ladies' toilets for evening dinner can be very elegant, while the gentlemen may appear in full dress. Gloves are removed at the table, and are not replaced. These formal dinners are usually given in the evening.

A GOOD NUMBER AT TABLE

Ten is a very good number to seat at dinner. Some people foolishly fear the dreaded thirteen. It is a superstition which probably has its rise in the fact that at the Last Supper there were thirteen. Many firmly believe that should this number meet at table, one of the company will die before the expiration of the year—an idea which has no foundation in fact.

Guests should be prompt, arriving at least ten minutes before the hour set for dining. Fifteen minutes is the limit of time allowed for the hostess to keep the remainder of the guests waiting the arrival of a tardy one.

"All remain standing until the hostess is seated, when they take the seats assigned to them. This is usually indicated by a card (the guest card) laid at each place, on which is the name of the person for whom that seat is designed. Many fanciful designs are often prepared for these cards. They may be hand-painted, with figures of flowers, landscapes or birds, or have beautiful etchings, or bronze and silver ferns, or have some design in consonance with the giving of the dinner."

WHAT A HOSTESS SHOULD AVOID

A hostess must never lose her self-possession. She should never reprove servants before others, as the occasion should be made as pleasant as possible. She should never allow her plate to be removed until all the guests have finished eating.

THE HOST'S DUTIES

"The host must be ever on the alert to assist the hostess. He must watch the conversation, suggest new topics when it flags, direct it away from unpleasant topics, draw out the reticent and encourage the shy. He must always aim to bring out others, while he should never shine supreme at his own table. He should possess a knowledge of the world that nothing can surprise, and a calmness and suavity that nothing can ruffle. As far as possible the wants of all should be anticipated."

On leaving, each guest should express the pleasure which has been received in a very few words.

LUNCHEONS

Luncheons are such social affairs that they are very popular with many ladies who dread the ceremony of a dinner, and yet who desire to entertain their friends. Any meal between the regular ones is called a luncheon, and the invitations may be by card, or even verbally. The luncheon is, however, strictly given by women to women. There is a fine opportunity for the display of handsome china, pretty centerpieces and embroidered linen.

Luncheons given in honor of some distinguished person may be made very elaborate.

INVITE AS MANY AS YOU CHOOSE

Any number of guests may be invited, and if the ladies outnumber the gentlemen it does not matter. Generally there are no gentlemen at all, as these luncheons are day-time affairs, when men are engaged in business.

There is scarcely any formality observed.

WEARING HATS AT TABLE

Hats and bonnets may be worn to the table at the hotel, an informal luncheon, and must always be worn at a restaurant.

BILL OF FARE

The bill of fare may be varied. Cold meats, tea and coffee, with loaf cake, puddings, ice-cream and tarts are usual, though some have hot meats served. Salads, oysters, game can be added, or the fare may consist merely of tea or chocolate, thin slices of bread and butter, and chipped beef or cold tongue.

Music and conversation follow the lunch.

Calls are made after a luncheon the same as after a dinner.

When a luncheon is intended to be very fashionable, flowers must be in evidence in abundance, and each dish is served as a separate course. The toilets of the guests are very stylish, and everything is in keeping. The rooms are darkened, and artificial lighting is resorted to.

The luncheon is a very pleasant and simple way of paying one's debts in the matter of entertaining, and is exceedingly popular.

The form of invitation is as follows:

Mrs. Frank M. White
Requests the pleasure of
Mrs. James Delbridge's company at
Luncheon,
Tuesday, June 17, at two o'clock.
62 Elizabeth St.

The bill of fare which we append is designed for a very elaborate entertainment:

Raw oysters on half-shell.
Bouillon.
Vols-au-vent of Sweet-breads.
Lamb-chops, Tomato Sauce.
Chicken Croquettes, French Peon.
Salad of Lettuce.
Neufchatel Cheese, Milk Wafers toasted.
Chocolate Bavarian cream, moulded in small cups, with a spoonful of
Peach Marmalade on each plate.
Vanilla Ice-Cream, Fancy Cakes.
Fruit.
Coffee.

GOOD WILL

Entertaining another at dinner is a sign of good will, hence all slander and abuse to any one partaking of hospitalities in is the poorest of form.

"Entertaining is the finest of all the fine arts," says Lillian Whiting in "The World Beautiful," "and it cannot be done by proxy. It cannot be done by the cook, nor yet by the decorator. The hostess cannot order it from the florist, nor the caterer, nor the professional 'performer,'—whether of music or Delsarte recitals. To depend upon these shows a poverty of resources. And more than all, and above all, every entertainment, whether informal or ceremonial, may well be based on the spirit of those words: 'Better a dinner of herbs where love is than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.' Let the hostess give her guests her personal interest, her warm friendship, her sympathetic comprehension, and she will have then mastered the delicate and subtle art of entertaining."

CHAPTER XX.

ETIQUETTE AT THE TABLE

“There are not unfrequently substantial reasons underneath for customs that appear to us absurd.”

—CHARLOTTE BRONTE.

NO surer gauge of the native refinement of any person can be found than the manners which they show at the table. It is incumbent upon parents to train their children in those niceties of etiquette which will grow with their growth, and make their progress through life easy.

CHILDREN SHOULD BE INSTRUCTED

Children should be early brought to the table with their elders, that they may benefit by association with those whose manners are fixed. By such association they will acquire an ease and readiness which will serve them well when they in turn become entertainers in their after life.

POLITENESS TO ALL

The enjoyment of the family meal is greatly enhanced when each member is polite and attentive to the others; when parents and children are cheerful, agreeable and look after each other's comfort.

CHILDREN ALLOWED TO TALK AT TABLE

The children in a household should be encouraged to talk, but not permitted to show off, and say smart things. There is a great temptation on the part of fond parents to tell the bright sayings and doings of their offspring to strangers, in their presence; this should never be indulged in, as it makes the little one have an undue idea of its own importance, and is annoying to strangers, who, although they may be partial to a bright child, do not want to hear its praises sounded continually.

MANNERS OF THE LITTLE ONES

Children should wait quietly, until their elders are served. This will be difficult for them, for nearly all children are gifted with healthy appetites, but if the habit of waiting is enforced, it will become easy and habitual.

Require them in asking for an article out of their reach to preface the request with, "Please pass me the salt," and also to call the one whom they address by his name, as "Mr. Willis, will you please pass the salt?" When they are invited to have more of an article, which they do not desire, they should answer politely, "I do not wish any more, thank you." The youngest child can be taught these simple rules.

LOUD TALKING PROHIBITED

Loud talking on their part should be prohibited, as also interrupting conversation. They should not whisper, however, or glance around the table and giggle. Neither should an older child reprove the wee ones aloud for any breach of good manners, or direct the attention of the mother to it in the presence of others. A look, or low-spoken word will remind the offending one and save it mortification.

WHEN CHILDREN LEAVE THE TABLE

If children are compelled to leave the table before the rest of the family, so as to reach school, they should rise quietly, ask to be excused and leave the apartment so as not to disturb the others. Do not allow them to leave the table for play, and then return to finish the meal.

DO NOT LET THEM EAT GREEDILY

They should not eat greedily, cramming their mouths full, nor smack their lips, tilt their chairs back, or drop their knives carelessly on the tablecloth. The knife and fork should be laid across the plate, with the handles to the right, when the meal is finished.

GROWN PEOPLE AT FAULT

While children's manners are thus alluded to, we regret to say that

they are not the sole violators of good-breeding. To any one who observes much, it is astonishing that so many well-dressed people, who seem to know so much, are so shockingly rude at the table. Some people are guilty of acts which are revolting.

BEGGING COMPLIMENTS

Don't solicit compliments for your food, by laying stress upon the care with which it is prepared. If it is good, the guest will not be slow in complimenting you, although this should be done without approaching to flattery. It is quite proper to speak words of praise regarding some especial dish. Say nothing about the food you set before your guest; but by its abundance and the welcome you give him he will measure its value.

REFUSING AN ARTICLE OF FOOD

If a guest does not care for a certain article on the table, or for some reason does not wish to partake of it, he should not refuse it by stating that "Cheese don't agree with me," or "I can't endure tomatoes," but simply say—"I do not care for any, thank you." We well remember the horror and disgust with which an apparently well-bred lady filled her listeners at the table by declining a certain dish with the assertion that "It took too long to digest, and her doctor had forbidden it."

RUDENESS AT TABLE

There are many little rudenesses which can be perpetrated at the table, and which a little thought would instinctively pronounce offensive. Among these are coughing or breathing into your neighbor's face; fidgeting in your seat, or moving about restlessly; drumming upon the table with your fingers; whispering confidentially with your neighbor; emphasizing your remarks by flourishing your fork, to the risk of his eyes; leaning the elbows upon the table; standing up and reaching across the table in place of requesting that what you want be passed you. All these acts of ill-breeding or thoughtlessness we have seen perpetrated by those who should know better.

MANNERS AT TABLE

Sit upright at the table without bending over or lowering your head to partake of your food. Do not sit either too far away or too near the table. Don't sit with one arm lying on the table, your back half turned to your left-hand neighbor, while you eat with a voracity that is only equaled by those who are much at railroad eating-houses, where "ten minutes for lunch" is the rule.

When oysters are served for the first course, it is proper to commence eating at once. Oyster soup may be eaten from the point of the spoon, but do not make a hissing sound while eating it. Other soups must be taken from the side of the spoon.

If you do not like soup, allow it to remain untouched until the servant removes it.

Keep your mouth closed as much as possible while you are masticating your food.

THINGS TO AVOID

Do not eat onions or garlic before going into company. They may be very healthful, but they are also very disagreeable. We have known a fair young lady to perfume a whole car with them.

Do not talk loudly and boisterously, but be cheerful and companionable, not monopolizing the conversation, but joining in it. Never butter a slice of bread and bite into it like a hungry school-boy, and do not cut the slice into halves or quarters with your knife, but break off a piece, when wanted, and then butter and eat it. Do not break the bread or crackers into your soup.

Do not twirl a goblet, or rattle the knife and fork, or show anything which looks like eagerness to commence the meal.

Bones and fragments should be deposited on the little bone plates, so as not to soil the tablecloth. If you by accident spill coffee or tea, do not apologize. It is understood that you did not do it intentionally. The servant should at once spread a clean napkin over the stain.

Never turn tea or coffee into your saucer to cool it. If you wish a second cup, place the spoon in the saucer before passing it to be refilled.

Do not stand a dripping cup on the tablecloth. Never blow soup to make it cool.

It is very rude to pick your teeth at the table after a meal is completed.

Napkins are used to wipe the lips and fingers, not to mop the forehead.

Unfold your napkin below the level of the table, and do not tuck it under the chin or in the vest. When you have finished eating, leave the napkin unfolded, at the side of your plate.

Never put your own knife, fork or spoon into a dish from which others are to be helped.

When passing your plate to be helped the second time, be sure to leave the knife and fork on the plate, and the gentleman next you must wait until it is returned before resuming eating.

DRESS FOR THE OCCASION

The table being a meeting place where everything should be conducive to good manners, a gentleman should never appear in shirt sleeves. If it is excessively warm and he wishes to enjoy the freedom of his own home table, he can don a light coat of seersucker, farmer's satin, or similar material; but in public he will always retain the coat which he wears through the day, save, of course, on dress occasions, of which we have spoken elsewhere.

A lady should observe the same care in her dress. Untidy hair and dirty nails are especially repellant.

SERVING AT TABLE

The one who serves at table should not help too abundantly, or flood food with gravy. Many do not like it; and it is better to allow each guest to help himself to that. Water is poured at the right of a guest—everything else is passed from the left.

When the host is carving at a family table, it is not expected that you will wait for all to be served before beginning to eat. A person should never be asked if he wishes more potato, or more meat, but rather some potato, some meat.

When you have passed a plate up to the carver, do not eat, but wait till the plate is returned.

Do not watch the dishes as they are uncovered, or talk with the mouth full.

If you discover something objectionable in the food do not attract the attention of others to it, but quietly deposit it under the edge of your plate.

DO NOT SOP GRAVY, ETC.

Never sop up your gravy or preserves with bread. And do not scrape your plate so as to obtain the last bit, or drink as though you were dying of thirst. It is quite an art to drink gracefully. Don't throw your head back and raise the glass perpendicularly, but carry the glass to your lips, and by lifting it to a slight angle you easily drain its contents.

Be careful not to stretch your feet across the room, under the table. It is very disagreeable to be kicked, even accidentally.

In leaving the table, if business or an engagement compels you to, excuse yourself. It is only in hotels or boarding-houses that this is permitted to pass unnoticed.

It is rude to handle the bread or cake which is offered you. Only touch the piece which you intend to eat.

Never carry fruit or confectionery away from the table. Eat all you wish while there.

Do not get up from your chair to reach anything on the table, and do not reach across others.

It is etiquette to take the last piece on the plate.

Ice cream is eaten with the pretty little ice-cream forks in vogue, but there is no offence against good manners if you use a spoon.

WHO SHOULD BE SERVED FIRST

It is understood in all polite society that the ladies should be served first. An authority says on this point:

"There is difference of opinion as to who should be first served at

table, many insisting that the old fashion of serving the hostess first should be continued; but as this originated in the days when people were in the habit of poisoning guests by the wholesale, as a convenient way of ridding themselves and the world of them, there seems to be no reason why it should be observed now. Then guests preferred that the hostess should show her confidence in the viands set before them before partaking themselves; but the natural instincts of propriety seem to indicate that the most honored guest, that is, the lady at the right of the host, should be first served."

PASSING ARTICLES ON THE TABLE

A gentleman seated by a lady or an elderly person passes the water or whatever may be required by his neighbor at the table. Ladies perform the same service for any one at a public table, even though they may be strangers.

DO NOT READ AT TABLE

Never bring a book or paper or a letter to the table to read. It is allowable at a hotel or restaurant, where you are not anxious to form promiscuous acquaintances, but among friends, the gaps should be filled in by cheerful conversation.

Separate fish bones before eating, but should one get into the mouth remove it by placing the napkin before the mouth.

Everything that it is possible to cut or break with a fork should be eaten without a knife. Do not overload the fork. And never put the knife into the mouth.

OBJECTING TO WINE

Should you have scruples about taking wine at dinner, it is not necessary to enter into an explanation and thus bring around your unfortunate head a veritable "hornet's nest" of ridicule and argument from unthinking people. Merely decline it, in a quiet and respectful manner. Those whose opinion is worth having will see nothing singular in the fact that you do not use wine.

Lift your glass, if you do use it, by the stem. Tumblers can be held with the hand near the bottom.

Eat slowly, as a measure of health, as well as manners.

LET YOUR PLATE BE PALATABLE-LOOKING

Do not mix your food on your plate with the knife. It looks as though you set no store by the nice care with which the various articles had been prepared. It were all the same to you, whether it were fish or fowl—it was only made to be devoured, not eaten.

Do not handle knife, fork or anything else on the table.

PARING FRUIT

Never pare fruit for a lady unless asked to do so, and then hold it upon the fork which belongs to her. Apples should be pared with silver fruit knives, and quartered and each slice carried to the mouth on the point of the knife. Still, there are many well-bred people who only enjoy apples when they can eat them as they did in their childhood's days, without the aid of a knife or fork.

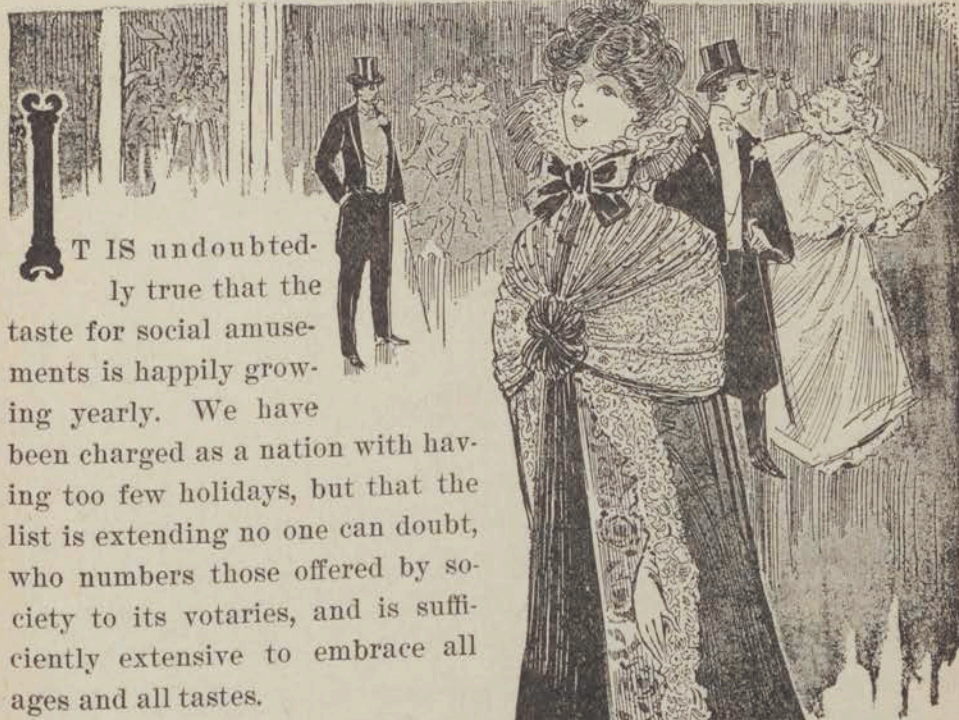
When gentlemen remain at the table, they rise and remain standing until the ladies have all passed out. If all leave the dining-room together, the ladies pass out in a body, first.

CHAPTER XXI.

RECEPTIONS, LECTURES, CHURCH, ETC.

"To love the public, to study universal good and to promote the interest of the whole world, as far as lies within our power, is the height of goodness, and makes that temper which we call divine."

—SHAFTESBURY.



IT IS undoubtedly true that the taste for social amusements is happily growing yearly. We have been charged as a nation with having too few holidays, but that the list is extending no one can doubt, who numbers those offered by society to its votaries, and is sufficiently extensive to embrace all ages and all tastes.

FIVE O'CLOCK TEAS

These teas are informal. Few guests are invited, and the cards of invitation sent out are merely a visiting card with the words "Five o'clock tea" added in the left hand corner. The refreshments are not elaborate, as those who at-

tend these affairs do not usually care for eating and drinking so much as they do for conversation and social intercourse.

A MUSICALE

This entertainment is rather difficult, as its success depends wholly upon the appearance of the artists whose names appear upon the programme. Often the hostess is compelled to use professional talent, as amateur performers are so apt to disappoint her.

Guests should arrive early, so that there will be no noise or confusion after the numbers have been commenced. The musicale is ordinarily held in the afternoon. The ladies can wear walking costumes. It is not really a concert, for it has social features, as a supper or collation is served to the guests when it is held in the evening. At an evening musicale, evening dresses are worn by both ladies and gentlemen.

Large rooms are necessary, so that singers and players can be heard to good advantage and there will be no over-crowding on the part of those attending. All extra furniture should be removed, and drapery serves to weaken the effect.

The programmes are sometimes written, sometimes engraved on dainty cards, and often hand-painted and decked with bows of narrow ribbon. Eleven pieces make a sufficiently long programme—and may be vocal, or vocal and instrumental combined. The invitations to any entertainment must be answered at once, that the hostess may know how many to expect, and fill the places of those who cannot be present.

LUNCHEON

Luncheon proper is entirely a ladies' affair, and gentlemen are not invited as a rule. The food is often served in a very ceremonious manner, and the table is laid with great elegance.

The forms observed are similar to those for dinners.

A menu something after the following is in good taste:

Grape Fruit.

Nut Soup.

Celery.

Chicken Croquettes.
New Potatoes in Cream.
Scalloped Corn.

Olives.

Waldorf Salad.
Cheese Wafers.

Strawberry Ice Cream.
Stone Wall Cake.

Coffee.

Confectionery.

INFORMAL ENTERTAINMENTS

Croquet, lawn-tennis and golf parties are informal ways of entertainment. Dresses must be simple and suitable for outdoor sport.

After the game a simple lunch to which friends are invited is appropriate but not necessary. Refreshments are served cold; guests sit where they please.

THE EVENING PARTY

The party held in the evening may be either very elaborate or simple in its details, in keeping with the ambition and means of its giver. Having decided upon the amount of outlay, and selected the guests to be invited, invitations should be issued ten days previous to the party. This is a good form:

MR. AND MRS. JOHN MONTGOMERY
request the pleasure of your presence
on Wednesday evening,
January 4th, at eight o'clock.
16 Euclid Avenue.

Dancing at 10.

THE INVITATION

This invitation should be engraved on small-sized notepaper, and

may be forwarded by mail. The parents and all the younger members of the family should receive separate invitations.

A reply from those receiving invitations should be returned at once:

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Elliott accept with pleasure Mr. and Mrs. John Montgomery's invitation for January 4th.

19 Harrison St.

DECLINING AN INVITATION

If it is necessary to decline an invitation it should be in the following terms:

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Elliott regret that they cannot accept Mr. and Mrs. John Montgomery's kind invitation for January 4th, owing to absence from home (or sickness in the family).

19 Harrison St.

NAMING YOUR REASONS

It is absolutely necessary that you should name your reasons for declination, especially if the invitation be the first one received from that source. You should call on the friends who sent you the invitation, whether you attended the party or not, a few days after it has taken place. It is a social debt which you owe them.

INVITING HUSBAND AND WIFE

When a husband is invited, the wife must be included, and vice versa. Either will resent an affront of this nature put upon the other. It is no excuse that you are not "much acquainted" or "do not like her." They both belong in the same circle, and it is your business to know and receive both together.

DANCING

Dancing does not always form part of the entertainment at evening parties. There may be conversation, cards, games, or music alone provided. Where dancing does not constitute the main pleasure, these may also be added, for even in fashionable society all do not dance.

WHEN TO ARRIVE

The hour for arriving, as also for departure, should be moderately early. In this country, where nearly all are engaged in business, it is wise and proper to keep more temperate hours than are kept by the leisure classes abroad, to whom night is nearly as day.

PROVIDING SUPPER

A supper is always provided, and the arrangement of the table should be in good taste. Of the conduct at supper, we cannot do better than to quote from a well-known authority on matters of etiquette, who says:

“It is ill-bred to eat largely at the supper. To say nothing of the ruinous effect of gorging at late hours, it is in bad taste. The ball and evening party are social affairs, and feasting merely incidental. To reverse the conditions is ill-bred. To drink to excess is worse than ill-bred, and even the temperate and total-abstinents will do well to talk and dance with extra caution after supper, as any license of speech or act may be attributed to the wine which has stolen away brain and self-control at the same time. No well-bred hostess can forgive any such abuse of her hospitality.”

PINK TEAS

“Pink teas” or “dinners” being still popular and enjoyable, we will refer to them in passing. They are so-called from the fact that all the table linen, dishes, ornaments, etc., are of one color—as “pink” or “blue,” according as they are designated.

CHOCOLATAIRE

Is of recent introduction. The only claim it has to novelty, however, is the fact that the drink is chocolate, and everything served must contain chocolate, as chocolate wafers, chocolate cake, etc., chocolate lemonade in hot weather, and chocolate caramels, and chocolate bonbons are passed in dainty bonbon baskets.

The cards are precisely the same as those sent out for teas, only the word *chocolataire* is substituted in the left hand corner.

Sometimes this entertainment is given as a church or charitable affair, and then the cards are unnecessary. Additions can be made to the articles dispensed, but all must have chocolate as their principal ingredient.

GOING TO CHURCH

There are many delightful entertainments given by church people, which are attractive to the young. The opinions of the teachers of the Gospel have undergone considerable modification within the past ten years, and they now claim that innocent recreation can be combined with religious instruction to the great benefit of the members of the church.

Sociables have been in vogue for many years, and have been productive of much pleasure; but the field has widened now, and amateur theatricals, charade parties, bazars, stereotypic lectures, confined strictly to their own members, and many other innovations, have been adopted. Picnics and kindred gatherings have long been popular.

The attendant at divine service should always dress nicely, but never in such brilliant colors as obtain at gay functions.

LECTURES

The etiquette of lectures demands that when an entrance is made after the speaker has begun, it should be done as noiselessly as possible, so as not to divert the attention of the auditors. A loud, fussy entrance is considered common indeed.

Do not talk to your companion while the lecturer is speaking, and do not leave the hall until he has concluded.

A lecture affords plenty of opportunity for fine dressing, and great latitude in this direction is allowed.

THE OPERA

Formerly, no lady would go to the opera save in a carriage; but there are many who now adopt a simpler method of locomotion. But

there is no place of amusement where the taste for elegant dressing can be indulged in to such extent. The dress may be of light, bright colors, with a profusion of flowers, or it may be of black lace with ornaments, rich silks and velvets. Neither is it out of place to wear the tailor-made suits. Americans have become so cosmopolitan in their tastes and so sensible withal, that any lady may dress as she pleases at the opera unless invited to help make up a theater party, in which case she should dress in a most attractive manner. Jewelry is proper, and adds to the stately picture afforded by the flashing lights, the sparkling music and the gay assemblage.

Gentlemen may attend in full dress and should by all means if occupying a box.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE OPERA

It is perfectly proper if one has time, to enter some first-class refreshment parlor and partake of "soda," an ice, bouillon, cocoa, coffee or even sandwiches, oysters or other light refreshments, but it should be done in a modest way, exciting no comment by display or loud talking.

SOIREES

Soirée means an evening of bright conversation, freedom of dress, supper and early hours. They are pleasant ways of entertaining in an informal way—on these occasions gentlemen feel at home. There need not necessarily be dancing, although it is not out of place. More often they are impromptu musicales or readings. Refreshments are generally served in an informal manner—the guests frequently going to the kitchen and assisting in the spread.

Soirées have grown to be quite "the thing" in larger places and in many cases have become weekly affairs. They are introduced by some one family setting apart an evening and inviting some special company for the occasion—later on it becomes generally known that the home is open on these evenings to all intimate friends. In this way it becomes delightful to call, for all formality is dropped.

The soirée, if well managed, can become not only entertaining so-

cially, but productive of much good. The clever and best people can be brought together for mutual benefit.

The want of wealth need not become a drawback to hospitality. To be sure, wealth can dazzle the eye and delight the senses, but many a humble home has entertained in a way that makes the entertainments of the New York "four hundred" insipid in comparison. The bringing together of the artist, the musician, the scholar, the student, the business and professional man, the farmer and the mechanic gives a sympathetic and genial zest to life, that is hard to surpass; but the pretenders and adventurers, what shall we say of them? Far better leave them out. There are scores of good, noble people who deserve the hostess' attention—and pretenders must learn sooner or later that genuineness only is worthy of recognition.

CHAPTER XXII.

COSTUME PARTIES AND WHAT TO WEAR

*"If all the year were playing holidays,
To sport would be as tedious as to work;
But when they seldom come, they wish'd for come
And nothing pleaseth but rare accidents."*

—SHAKESPEARE.

PUBLIC masquerades have often been frowned upon because of the license it gives to questionable persons. But private masquerade parties, where the host and hostess invite their guests, are most delightful affairs. The mystery surrounding the wearers of the masks, the fanciful costumes worn, the efforts to preserve the illusions, all lend a charm such as the ordinary party does not possess. The protection of

home is thrown about the guests, and a feeling of unrestraint follows. There is also much opportunity for the exercise of wit and raillery on

the part of the maskers. Sometimes the entertainment is on so large a scale that the hostess is compelled to make use of a public hall to accommodate her guests, but this fact does not take from it its privacy.



PLANNING THE PARTY

The care attending the planning of a masquerade is far greater than that of nearly all other entertainments, as the decorations are more elaborate. If the entertainment be a dance, the invitations are issued a month in advance, because the costume to be worn demands thought. This is usually left to the persons participating, but sometimes the hostess maps out a costume scheme herself, allotting to each guest the character she wishes them to assume.

Other hostesses issue invitations for a costume party and do not require masks. Whenever masks are worn, they must be removed at the hour for supper and frequently are removed long before.

CHOICE OF CHARACTERS

There are so many historical personages known to us, as well as gypsies, fortune tellers, flower-girls, farmers, milkmaids and clowns, that it is no difficult matter to design a costume. There is a wide latitude for originality in designing the costumes worn and by the exercise of taste and accuracy some beautiful and striking effects can be obtained.

The hostess may, with a view to the success of her entertainment, select the costumes for a sufficient number of her particular friends to don, to insure success, leaving the remainder of her guests to exercise their own fancies. One group might be arranged to typify the court of Napoleon the First; another, of Irish peasants, etc.

INVITATIONS—HOW ISSUED.

The invitation card should say:



Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Gregory request the pleasure of
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Raycroft's company,
Wednesday evening, March nineteenth,
at nine o'clock.

Masquerade.

If merely a "costume party," substitute the words "Costume Party." Sometimes it is not made obligatory upon all to assume characters, and then the words, "Ordinary dress is permitted" are added, which finds favor with those who prefer to appear in their own person.

HOW THE HOST AND HOSTESS DRESS

The host and hostess are in fancy costume as are their daughters or nearest friends, who assist them in receiving, and the etiquette observed is precisely the same in every particular. The room should be well lighted, and gaily adorned.

The masquerade affords a never-ending amount of originality in the designing of the costume worn. As far as possible novelty in this respect should be sought after. Mythical characters are suitable. Representations of nature's beauties are proper. But whatever the imitation, it should be as true to the original in every particular as is possible.

Church gatherings can be made very pleasant by an occasional costume social—the most frequent of these is the

NEW ENGLAND DINNER

served by the members dressed in the fashions of our grandfathers'



time. On such occasions no masks are needed. The New England school is also a pleasant and amusing form of entertainment. In this case, the pupils should be dressed as boys and girls.

Among other entertainments which can take on life by the use of costumes is that of cards, "Tiddledy Winks" and "Carroms." By the donning of costumes for one evening only, a wonderful impetus is given to hospitality. No stiffness or formality can exist where these are in vogue.

AUTHOR'S PARTY

Another interesting and instructive costume entertainment is that of the author's party—in which each person arrays himself in the dress of the strongest character of his favorite author and uses in his conversation the best known quotation from that author's pen. As there are numerous women writers and composers, the author's party enables all to take part with zest.



The above are simply suggestions to be varied as circumstance and occasion demand.

VALENTINE PARTIES

Among the many occasions for costume parties may be mentioned that of Valentine day. It was the writer's privilege to have been present at a children's valentine party, on February 14, 1900, and such an array of original designed frocks and gowns was enough to remind one of Fairyland and



PARLOR THEATRICALS



COSTUME PARTY—REPRESENTING FARM LIFE

*"The greatness that would make us grave,
Is but an empty thing.
What more than mirth would mortals have?
The cheerful man 's a king."*

—BICKERSTAFF.



This elaborate frock can be made of inexpensive material; Tarleton or cotton crape, and paper flowers.



The wrap and muff of this costume can be made of white cotton batting, flecked with black ink. With it any elaborate skirt and bonnet can be worn.

COSTUMES FOR A PARLOR MASQUERADE

Aladdin's lamp. The boys were mostly dressed in white duck covered with heart-shaped valentines of red, gold and colors. The red ones were made of Turkey red cloth, of all shapes and sizes, some with fringe, some with daggers of gold run through them, while others were covered with love's sweet messages, as "Will you be mine?" "My heart is yours," etc., etc. Some wore heart-shaped caps, others skull caps decorated with daggers, and still others wore even more artistic and original headgear.

The girls assumed the characters of "Bo-peep," "Little Miss Muffett," "Miss Jill" (and you may be sure Jack was quite proud of her), "Mrs. Tom Tucker," "Mrs. Jack Spratt" and others too numerous to mention.

VARIATION FOR A CHURCH SOCIAL

A most delightful variation in an evening's entertainment is the game known as Geography. Prizes can be given or not, as fancy dictates, and from five persons to one hundred can play it. The game is planned and carried out as follows: The leader previously selects the names of from ten to thirty cities, States, rivers or whatever geographical names he likes, and divides each into syllables or parts, describing each syllable by telling what it is, where it can be found, its meaning or some quality it possesses. (To illustrate—take I-da-ho. The first syllable is a personal pronoun (I), or an organ of the human body (eye). The second syllable is a period of time (day), the third syllable is an implement used by farmers (hoe). If separated into parts instead of syllables, Ida-ho, the first is a girl's name, the second a tool boys like to use.)

Much depends upon the leader. He must prepare as many written or printed slips as there are players, with the syllables of each city, State or river as the case may be, described thereon, but the answer itself must not appear on the slip. When all is ready, he gives each player a slip and pencil and allows ten minutes for each player to write the answers. At the end of the time the prize is given to the one writing correctly the greatest number of answers and a "booby" or consolation prize to the one writing the fewest. No assistance is to be given to any person in determining answers. If the players are children, simple words should be chosen, and the descriptions plain;

if mature people with considerable education, the descriptions need not be so clear.

The game requires thought and work on the part of the leader, but the interest and enthusiasm aroused will be ample reward. An outline showing how to prepare the lists is given below, a study of which will make everything clear.

- | | | |
|--|---------|------------------|
| FIRST PUZZLE. | | Correct answers. |
| a. A race of people..... | Indian | |
| b. A fruit | Apple | |
| c. A simple verb..... | Is | Indianapolis |
| SECOND PUZZLE. | | |
| a. A boy's favorite game..... | Ball | |
| b. Worn by men and women..... | Tie | |
| c. Children sometimes cry for..... | More | Baltimore |
| THIRD PUZZLE. | | |
| a. An exclamation | Oh | |
| b. Lofty | Hi | |
| c. A vowel | O | Ohio |
| FOURTH PUZZLE. | | |
| a. A name often applied to a girl..... | Gal | |
| b. An article of apparel..... | Vest | |
| c. A preposition | On | Galveston |
| FIFTH PUZZLE. | | |
| a. What most women dislike..... | Washing | |
| b. A heavy weight..... | Ton | Washington |
| SIXTH PUZZLE. | | |
| a. Applied to many religious characters..... | Saint | |
| b. One of the professions..... | Law | |
| c. Paid for using property..... | Rents | St. Lawrence |
| SEVENTH PUZZLE. | | |
| a. Found in every home..... | Pen | |
| b. Main part of a frame building..... | Sill | |
| c. Don't let it be said of you..... | Vain | |
| d. Two of the vowels..... | ia | Pennsylvania |
| EIGHTH PUZZLE. | | |
| a. A girl's name..... | Ally | |
| b. Happy | Gay | |
| c. An abbreviation for a State..... | N. Y. | Alleghany |
| NINTH PUZZLE. | | |
| a. A name applied to man by one people..... | Mon | |
| b. Found in the forest..... | Tree | |
| c. The whole | All | Montreal |

In announcing the game, the leader should state that each word is the name of a city or whatever it may be, or that each is a proper noun found in geography. The game can be played with history, botany or some other study substituted for geography and affords a wide field for the exercise of one's faculties. As a wit-sharpener it has few equals.

CHAPTER XXIII.

DRESS—ITS ATTRACTIVENESS AND APPROPRIATENESS

"For the apparel oft proclaims the man."

—SHAKESPEARE.



DRESS has its rules of etiquette, and one of the first is the har-

mony and fitness which should obtain in one's dress. Each special occasion and each season has its own particular fashion, adapted to that occasion alone. The possession of wealth does not excuse the adoption of incongruous modes of dress. On the contrary, many a lady in society is especially noticeable by the neatness and simplicity of her costumes.

MAKE YOURSELF ATTRACTIVE.

One of the first duties which a young girl owes to herself and to those around her is to make herself attractive per-

sonally. No living human being can afford to sneer at personal appearance, nor neglect to care for such gifts as nature has bestowed.

It is taught and drilled into boys from their earliest years that they must be strong, manly and self-reliant. Why should not girls be taught with equal consistency that they owe it to themselves to enhance the charms they possess, and render themselves more engaging by being fittingly attired?

It is not necessary that the item of expense should enter into the matter. The best-dressed women are often those who are economical in their outlay of money, but who devote time, thought and genius to the production of a toilet which shall be becoming and adapted to their position in life and to their own individual charms.

DRESS AND MANNERS

To be well-dressed gives one an ease of manner that is agreeable to all. The consciousness of being well-dressed gives a self-possession that no one can enjoy if he feels that he is shabby-looking or that his clothes are unbecoming. He forgets self in the first instance; in the second, he cannot banish self.

It is an obligation owed society to be attractive outwardly as well as mentally; to be careful not to offend correct taste by the exhibition of glaring colors and inharmonious contrasts.

BEAUTY A COMMON GIFT

Beauty is a gift, and all can lay claim to some share of this inheritance, whether it lie in a symmetrical form, beautiful eyes, a sweet voice, or a fine contour. When these charms are increased by careful attention to the details of dress, and a due regard for good taste, coupled with an agreeable manner, men cry out—"How beautiful!"

BE CONSIDERATE

No one should tell a young girl that she is plain and forbidding. In over-sensitive natures it implants a shrinking timidity that may result in utter indifference to self, and soon neglectful habits creep in. They slight their teeth, or their complexion. They allow their hands to grow

coarse and rough, and many other equally untidy habits follow. Boys as well as girls who are plain should study the little graces of dress and manner even more closely than their more beautiful neighbors. The social circle contains many who are outwardly plain, but whose cultivation and taste have given them a beauty of their own, which is far superior to mere physical loveliness alone.

A QUESTION ABOUT DRESS

The questions a lady should ask herself are—"Is my dress suitable to the occasion?" and—"Is it becoming?" Americans have the reputation of being among the best-dressed people on earth; that is, they wear the richest materials. But there is often a sad incongruity between their apparel and their position in life. By this we do not mean that any one should wear a dress which would serve as a badge of their social status, but they should adapt their dress to their circumstances and occupation. The young lady in business should not wear a dress to and from her office suitable only for a drawing-room, nor should a gentleman don a dress-coat, and elegant necktie while he carried his lunch box in one hand, and held on to the strap of a street-car with the other. Ladies, when shopping, assume their most expensive garments, and the girl of all-work leaves the house by the back door, dressed in such close imitation of her mistress that it puzzles a stranger to place her. These errors of judgment on the part of both are easily avoided. No matter how rich the material, or how elegantly it is fashioned, if it is not proper for the time and season, no lady is well dressed.

DRESSMAKERS NOT INFALLIBLE

Too many ladies accept the dictum of a dressmaker or milliner, and are persuaded into adopting styles of dress that are very unsuitable to them, merely because they are "worn by everybody." It is the province of a dressmaker to bring to her customer's notice the newest fashion, and not to inquire whether it is likely to make her look a fright or not, so ladies should think for themselves, and study their individual

features and forms; they will then make fashion their subject, and not their tyrant.

LOVE OF DRESS

We do not intend that women should make love of dress a ruling passion. It is apt then to become a fatal love, bringing misery and woe in its train. But they should study dress as a means, and not as an end, that they may become artistic and inventive. Mrs. S., who is slight, fair, with dark eyes and hair, wears a crimson dress, which brightens her clear skin; Mrs. J., who is short, fat, freckled, with red hair, admiring her friend's dress, at once procures its counterpart, and the effect can be imagined.

OVER-DRESSING

Avoid over-dressing. A lady should not serve as a lay figure, on which her whole wardrobe is displayed. It has a bad moral effect, and is the mark of a vulgar mind. It exposes young girls to unfair criticisms, and makes older women appear ridiculous. Over-dressing is particularly an error into which school-girls are liable to fall. A writer on this point, who assumes that boys' schools are vastly superior to girls, not only in the manner of teaching, but in the comfort and care of the students, she refers to the cost, thus: "It takes from one to two thousand dollars a year to support a girl at these schools, including the expense of dresses." The concluding lines are so apropos, and so fully state the case, that we give them without comment: "There are a great many young girls in American boarding-schools whose dress costs a thousand dollars a year, or even more than that sum. The effect of this over-dressing on the spirit and manners of those who indulge in it, as well as those who are compelled to economical toilets, is readily apprehended by women, if not by men. Human nature in a girl is, perhaps, as human as it is anywhere, and so there comes to be a certain degree of emulation or competition in dress among school-girls and altogether too much envy and heart-burning."

The parents enter into this feeling, and strain every nerve that their girls may appear as well-dressed as their companions. What is

the result? The girl leaves school, her mind not half fitted for the practical life-work before her, with a love of dress paramount to other and more important interests.

JUDGED BY STRANGERS

While dressing beyond our means must not be indulged in, still a certain regard for looks is a duty we owe ourselves. It is certain that we are judged by strangers, on the strength of our personal appearance. It is related of some great painter that, calling on a man who stood high in Napoleon's esteem, and being shabbily dressed, he met with a cold reception. But his host, after conversing with him awhile, discovered talent and sense, and on the young artist's departure accompanied him to the antechamber. The change in manner awoke a surprise which must have written itself upon the artist's face, for the great man did not wait for an inquiry, but said—"My young friend, we receive an unknown person according to his dress; we take leave of him according to his merit."

A GENTLEMAN'S DRESS

A gentleman should give the same scrupulous attention to neat dressing that a lady does. He need not be a dandy, but he cannot afford to neglect his personal appearance. His clothes should fit him perfectly, his hat and shoes must be faultless. He can wear a business suit on ordinary occasions, but it must be in perfect order. His hair does not call for the attention which a lady's requires, because it is short, and always cut in one fashion, but it should be regularly brushed and cared for. His beard or mustache, if he wears either, should be kept trimmed and well-combed, and his finger nails should be scrupulously clean. His linen should be changed as soon as soiled, and his ties should be neat and tasteful, not loud and flashy. A man of sense can always please, but he is just as dependent on outward appearance for first impressions as any lady.

DRESS ACCORDING TO AGE

It is, no doubt, a hard matter to grow old gracefully. But both

sexes should learn to modify their dress with approaching age. The tints of complexion and outlines of form change, and the dress should change also. A man who has worn a beard all his life, and who, when he is fifty, suddenly shaves it off, and dons a jockey cap or a "crush" hat, looks quite as silly in his affectation of youthfulness, as does the woman of the same age, who assumes a girlish hat or a brilliant-hued dress. There is a certain beauty belonging to each year of life, and the woman who dresses in consonance with her age, her figure and her face, no matter whether she be young or middle-aged, will never excite the smile of derision.

CONSISTENCY IN MATERIALS

It is a great mistake to put cheap trimming on a handsome dress, or expensive ornaments on a cheap and flimsy material. A fine bonnet is entirely out of place with a shabby dress. Here, as elsewhere, everything should be in accord. And do not when you go to market, or shopping, wear a dress rich enough for the opera, under the impression that only rich dress will stamp your social status, and prove to the world that you belong to "the upper ten." Neither is the house of God the place for such fine dressing. Showy dresses are not proper save at receptions, theater, opera, or like places.

CHILDREN'S FASHIONS

If Kate Greenaway accomplished nothing else by her introduction of the charming little costumes for children, she has put the mothers on the sensible road, and we see no longer the frail little morsels, with dresses to their knees, limbs shivering, and low cut frocks, exposed to the cold in a manner that would bring tears to the eyes, were those little ones the offspring of the poor, and necessity compelled it. Warm dressing in childhood lays the foundation for a healthy maturity. We hear no more of "hardening children." Sensible, warm garments for winter, the universal use of woolen underwear, and the adoption of those pretty, long "grandma" dresses and cloaks, has effected a wonderful revolution in favor of better health for the future woman.

DRESS NEATLY AT HOME

If a lady would retain her influence with her husband, she will never appear untidily dressed. No man is pleased with careless, or slovenly dress; neither can any woman respect an untidy husband. Both should dress for each other's eyes, and not neglect those little efforts to beautify themselves, that pleased so much when they were single. The most sensible and hard-hearted man takes pride in his wife and daughters' appearance. And it is with a feeling of security that he invites a friend to accompany him home at any time, knowing that he will not be mortified by finding his wife unpresentable.

A LADY'S EVENING DRESS

As an "evening" dress is designed for all manner of festivities it should be of as rich material and as elegantly made as can be afforded. The colors should be harmonious; the dress should not be so low in the neck as to excite remark. If a lady is elderly, and wears a low-necked dress, she should always accompany it with a lace scarf or shawl. She will look well in rich satins and velvets, or warm-hued brocades. Crepons are very much worn, and are very handsome, when well made. Jewelry is allowable; diamonds or pearls are especially adapted to evening wear. The dress should be cut in the latest fashion, but as that changes with every moon, it is impossible to give directions on this point.

DRESS FOR YOUNG GIRLS

Young girls do not look well in plush or velvet. Dresses of these goods are too heavy and luxurious for their fresh young faces, which should be set off with graceful, clinging fabrics and simple muslins, tastefully made. Many girls select materials that are too old for them. We have spoken of the useless display which school-girls make, and which is prejudicial to that freedom of thought and action which is the chief charm of girlhood. Delicate fabrics, in small figures, prettily trimmed, and fitting the lithe young forms neatly, but never tightly, are best for the young.

BALL DRESS

Here the taste for elegant dressing can be gratified to the utmost, as it is expected. Those who dance much, however, should wear something of light material. There is no limit to colors. The more varied, the more brilliant is the scene under the glow of the electric light. Much ornamentation can be indulged in by the older ones, but young girls should wear no jewelry. Flowers as personal adornments are seldom used, they wither so fast and stain the dress. Steele once said that "Diamonds may tempt a man to steal a woman, but never to love her." This may be some consolation to those ladies who do not own them.

OPERA DRESS

The dress may be very elegant for operas, consisting of a full evening costume, and the hair should be dressed with flowers or ornaments. Bonnets are not worn. Custom now wisely prohibits the wearing of bonnets or hats at the theater or any public gathering. It is well not to wear them at all, unless a lady has to take the street-cars or walk. Low cut dresses have never been worn at the opera, save by those who occupy the boxes.

MORNING DRESS

The dress should be simple and inexpensive, but made nicely, and linen cuffs and collars are worn, or ruches. A morning dress, where a late breakfast is had, can be more luxurious. Imitation lace worn over a foulard or a gingham is proper for any age, and is very stylish. Jewelry is forbidden by good taste. On special reception days a lady may dress more expensively. A lady engaged in household affairs may see her callers in her morning dress, but it must always be neat and attractive.

WALKING DRESS

These dresses should be made for service; never so long that they will sweep the walk. Black or brown or slate are nice, relieved by bright colors in moderation. The gloves should match in color. Fashion is

sensible in many respects, and ladies are no longer afraid to clothe their feet in broad-soled, strong and serviceable shoes.

A GARDEN PARTY

These delightful entertainments have all the charm and freedom of a picnic, without any of the attendant disagreeableness of one. Of course, they are held outdoors. The hostess receives her guests on the lawn, wearing her hat or bonnet. As the refreshments are to be served in the open air, they are cold, consisting of salads, ham, tongue, jellies, ices, and cakes, with hot coffee indoors for those who wish it. Dancing, archery, lawn tennis are enjoyed, and for the first a band of music is indispensable.

Ladies wear hats or bonnets, and short dresses have been fashionable. But rumor has it that long dresses are to be worn on these occasions.

The invitations to a garden party are similar to those sent for a small reception, save the words "Garden Party" are added in the left hand corner. These gatherings can be made very informal and enjoyable, where the hostess possesses tact and ready wit.

All the guests retain their hats, but are shown into the house on their arrival, where they can remove their wraps and arrange their toilets.

TRAVELING DRESS

Comfort and protection from dust are the requirements of a traveling dress. Soft, neutral tints may be chosen, and a smooth-surfaced material which does not retain the dust. The dress should be made plain, and quite short. Collars and cuffs are worn. A gossamer and warm woolen wrap must be carried, as also a satchel containing a change of collars, cuffs, gloves, handkerchiefs, toilet articles and towels. A traveling dress should be well supplied with pockets, for they may be called on to hold as many articles as a boy's pocket.

LAWN-TENNIS SUIT

The pretty stripes, soft flannels, and delicately shaded plaids are

site leg, but a woman never. She must ever have dignity. Any one who has seen the graceful actress Ada Rehan will know what dignity and ladylike manners can do for one.

Tight lacing is also to be condemned. It not only ruins the health, makes one appear unnatural and stiff, but it causes a redness in the face which is most unbecoming and far from aesthetic in appearance.

OUT OF FASHION

It is a great mistake to possess too many dresses at a time. They get out of fashion, and especially is this true of any one not continually in society. A young lady, however, who is constantly going to this place and that, to dances as well as to all other places, needs many fresh dresses so as not to appear untidy. There is nothing like freshness; this is why I say have no more at one time than is necessary.

CHAPTER XXIV.

CORRESPONDENCE—BUSINESS AND SOCIAL

“Letters which are warmly sealed are often coldly opened.”

—RICHTER.

THE man or woman who can talk well, can write well. Those thoughts that enable one to shine in conversation can be transferred to paper and win for the writer the same amount of admiration. There is only this difference—that words, as they fall from the lips, have an airy grace of their own, aided by the tone of voice, and play of feature, which written down in set phrases, is lacking. Any person can write a social, friendly letter. Indeed, the chief charm of such epistles is, that they consist of airy nothings, which are not brought under any set rules. But letters to strangers and letters of business must partake of a more formal character; as also letters of regret and those written to congratulate a friend. For these certain forms are required to be observed.

WHAT COLORED INK TO USE

Never use fancy colored inks. Though once fashionable, they are no longer deemed elegant. A clear black ink is the accepted standard. Purchase an ink that flows freely, without sinking into the paper, and will not gum the pen. A rusty brown black is very offensive to the eye. So is a blue, and yet that color was very much affected by young people at one time.

PAPER AND ENVELOPES

The style and size and shape of paper changes continually. These matters are always within the province of the stationers who supply them, and who always keep the “latest.” But the quality never varies. A fine, firm white paper is always in demand. If you have a preference for tints, they should be of the most delicate cream, or gray, so faint

as scarcely to be observable. Learn to write on unruled paper. It is very easy to do so. Ruled paper is only suitable for business correspondence, and is seldom used even then. If you find it too difficult to write without lines, a sheet of heavily ruled paper placed underneath will serve you as a guide.

Never answer a letter a gentleman sends you, if done on a typewriter, unless it is a strictly business letter.

A paper with your monogram is allowable, and in England, where they do many things sensibly, it is the custom to have one's address printed at the head of the sheet.

This stands in lieu of writing it in the body of the letter, an omission which many are guilty of. Envelopes are square, and should exactly fit the paper, so that it need not be doubled but once. Ladies may use delicately perfumed paper, but gentlemen should not. Black-edged paper is in vogue with those who are in mourning. Some people do not use it, however. In writing a letter of condolence to one who has lost a friend you should not adopt a mourning paper, but use the stationery you have. It is rude to write to a friend or stranger on a half-sheet of paper, or on a torn sheet. In business houses the half-sheet is always used, but it is printed with a letter head for that special purpose. Crossing your page is positively an insult. Some ladies write across the proper way, then turn and recross, until it would need the patience of the famous Job to decipher them. The writer remembers, when a girl, of receiving such a letter from a very dear cousin. It was crossed and criss-crossed in every conceivable direction, and in so fine a hand that it rivaled the intricacies of a spider's web. It is needless to say, that to this day the contents of that letter are unknown to the recipient. It awoke the same feelings as expressed by a hero of a novel, who says—in speaking of a similar infliction—"Give me any other torture than this, to read a woman's plaid letter." Paper that is thin or full of specks is untidy and cheap looking. So are blots, erasures and interlining. Long letters are only welcome to friends who take deep interest in us, and even then "Brevity is the soul of wit," for few have the rare gift of writing lengthy epistles that will not weary.



A LETTER TO MOTHER

*"Of all those arts in which the wise excel,
Nature's chief masterpiece is writing well."*

—BUCKINGHAM.



CHILDISH FANCY

"Ridicule is perhaps a better expedient against love, than sober advice."

—ADDISON.

WRITING TO ROYALTY

An English paper says: When you write to Queen Victoria the paper which you use must be thick and white, and the letter must be put into an envelope large enough to contain it without folding. A letter which has been folded never reaches the queen, and the chances are that she never hears of its existence. Such letters are dealt with by the mistress of the robes, who, if she considers them of sufficient importance to be handed to her majesty, returns them to their senders, with directions as to how the letter should be sent to the sovereign.

The square envelope seems to have driven all other shapes from the field of public favor. And we think there is no shape so useful and so sensible.

REFUSE TO CORRESPOND WITH STRANGERS

If a young girl receives a request to correspond with a man she should pay no attention to it. If he persists, she probably has a father or some big brother who will attend to him. We believe that there is too much of this promiscuous letter-writing done, for which there is no reason. We hate to say it, but men are careless, and often lay things round in such a thoughtless manner that a letter might be seen, which would lead to inquiry and perhaps jesting at her expense.

Young girls often thoughtlessly begin a correspondence with strangers. A romantic girl whose training has been neglected might begin this dangerous amusement, but it had best be discontinued at once. The young man who writes thus to a young girl is usually lacking in lady friends, and she must be wanting in self-respect to permit such a breach of propriety. He is sure to show her letters, and boast of his conquest, and perhaps even attack her good name.

USING ABBREVIATIONS

Business people, to save time, date their letters—"2-4-'91—" meaning fourth day, second month of 1891. It is impolite in friendly correspondence. Addresses should be in figures, as "No. 21 Carpenter St.;" the day of the month also, as "September 3." Numerals are not proper

in letters. Were you to speak of the century, it would be "the nineteenth century." The age should be spelled out, as "He is sixty to-day." The titles of persons preceding their name should be abbreviated—"Hon. Reverdy Johnson," "Rev. Dr. Bacon." States are abbreviated when the town precedes them, as "Boston, Mass.;" "Viz." for videlicet, meaning "namely," or "to wit;" "i. e." for id est (it is); "e. g." for exempli gratia ("for example;") "ult" for ultimo—last month; "prox." for proximo—next month; "inst." for instant—the present month; "etc." for et cætera, "and the rest," or "and so on;" "v." or "vs." for versus; "vol."—volume; "chap."—chapter; "A. M.," "M.," and "P. M." for forenoon, noon, and afternoon. Figures are used in denoting sums of money, or large quantities—as "\$200,000;" "175,000 barrels;" per cent., "30 per cent.;" degrees of latitude, longitude or temperature, unless the degree sign is used, are spelled out; also fractions, in correspondence, as "three-fourths," "seven-eighths."

WHAT SHOULD A LETTER CONTAIN?

Directions cannot be given for the matter of which a letter should consist. That depends wholly upon the writer. The form of commencing a letter, "Dear Friend, I take my pen in hand to let you know I am well," has long ago become stereotyped and tiresome. It also argues egotism on the part of the writer. Would you have your correspondent imagine that your sole motive for writing is to inform her of the state of your health? An unnecessary piece of information, also, is to state that you take your pen in hand. Of course she will suppose that you have done so by the result. Be original in that, as in all things else. Write as you would talk were your correspondent present. Try and think over what you intend writing, and say it in the most natural way you can. This is the highest art—to do everything in so artistic and finished a manner, that it will have the appearance of being a second nature.

IMPROPERLY ADDRESSED LETTERS

It is estimated that four million letters find their way to the dead letter office annually, because they are improperly addressed. This is

a matter for serious consideration. It is best to give the county on the address as well as the town, save for large cities that are well known. There are so many names common to towns that unless this precaution is taken, the letter is often missent. We present a few forms of address:

Mr. Henry C. Martin,
27 Lafayette St.,
Salem, Mass.

Mrs. Lydia A. Farnum,
44 Easton Ave.,
Union Co. Marysville, O.

Address the Governor of a State, thus:

His Excellency,
Gov. Theodore Roosevelt,
Albany, N. Y.

A personal letter to our Chief Executive is addressed thus:

To the President,
Executive Mansion,
Washington, D. C.

A gentleman who bears an honorary title will receive his mail, if directed:

Rev. A. C. Hill, D. D., LL. D.,
Chancellor of University,
Troy, N. Y.

A letter to any member of the President's cabinet should bear the following:

Hon. T. W. Talbot,
Secretary of the Navy, (Army, Treasury, etc.)
Washington, D. C.

A letter of introduction is always left unsealed and the envelope is addressed thus:

Col. Robert O. Ellis,
Xenia, O.
Introducing Mr. Fred Osmun.

Business letters are universally printed now with a line or two like the following, on the upper left-hand corner:

If not called for in 10 days,
return to
Adams & Co.,
48 La Salle St., Chicago.

STAMP.

MR. WILLIAM HILTON,
Mishawaka,
Ind.

A note intrusted to the care of another to be delivered personally, is addressed thus:

Miss Mabel Evans,

City.

Kindness of Mr. Warren Hastings.

FRENCH PHRASES

Phrases from the French are so frequently met with in notes and invitations, that we append those most commonly used:

French Phrase.	Abbreviation.	Meaning.
Repondez s'il vous plait.	R. S. V. P.	Reply if you please.
Pour prendre conge.	P. P. C.	To take leave.
Pour dire adieu.	P. D. A.	To say farewell.
En ville.	E. V.	In the town or city.
Costume de rigueur.		Costumes to be full dress.
Fete champetre.		A country (or rural) entertain- ment.
Soiree dansante.		A dancing party.
Bal masque.		A masquerade ball.
Soiree musicale.		A musical entertainment.

ADDING POSTSCRIPTS.—UNDERSCORING

It is charged against ladies that they will add postscripts. This is not alone a fault of the fair sex. We have seen a long, rambling letter written by one of the sterner sex which contained the pith of the whole matter in the postscript. It is in bad taste in either sex. Underscoring is still more to be deprecated. It is well called "the refuge of the feebly forcible." Where it is indulged in too lavishly it weakens

the point of what the writer aims to say, and means nothing. The occasional use of an italic word sometimes conveys an idea a little more directly, but the habit of underscoring is best never practiced.

A FEW SUGGESTIONS

Do not attempt a letter unless you have something to say.

Do not commence a letter in the third person and sign it in the first. A letter of this character needs no signature.

Never write an anonymous letter. It is cowardly. The recipient of such a letter should quietly burn it. The man or woman who dares not sign his or her name is unworthy of notice.

Do not write a letter while in anger. You will surely say too much, which you will regret. Written words stand as living witnesses against you, and cannot be recalled.

Address your superiors with respect. Do not write flippantly to any one. Even with friends you should maintain a certain reserve.

Do not commit a secret to paper. You can never tell what use may be made of it, or into whose hands it may fall.

In writing to another, making an inquiry, or on any business of your own, inclose a stamp for reply. See that any letter you write is fully prepaid. It is humiliating to one's pride to learn that another was compelled to make up his deficiency.

HEADING FOR LETTERS

Commence a business letter near the top; a social letter should be begun about one-third the way down.

Here are several forms:

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 27, 1900.

Or the county may be added:

Chicago, Cook Co., Ill., Jan. 27, 1900.

The full address is added sometimes:

384 W. Congress St.,
Chicago, Ill.,
Jan. 27, 1900.

When writing from a college, or a hotel, those places may be affixed also. A more ceremonious style is to place the date at the close of the letter, as:

Yours sincerely,
LOUISA COLE.

Cincinnati, O., May 19, 1900.

The name of the person to whom the letter is addressed is placed on the next line below the heading, and if writing to a stranger or a business man this is the fashion:

MR. HORATIO WINTERS,
25 Genesee St.,
Batavia, N. Y.

Dear Sir:—Having received your communication of, etc.

LETTERS TO FRIENDS AND OTHERS

In writing to familiar friends, the salutation begins the letter, and their full name and address are written at the lower left-hand corner of the last page. Many titles are sanctioned by usage. A minister is addressed as Rev. Jerome Wellington, without any additional title. He may be saluted as Reverend Sir, or Dear Sir. A doctor of medicine is C. B. Wallace, M. D., or Dr. C. B. Wallace. A lawyer is the only person entitled to the "Esq.," although many foolishly imagine that they are adding dignity to a plain citizen by addressing him as "Esq." Nothing is more absurd or uncalled for.

SALUTATIONS USED

Business men can be addressed as "Gentlemen," or "Sirs," others are "Dear Sir," or "Sir," or "Hon. John Brown—Dear Sir." Any of these are sanctioned by usage. To a married lady one should address himself as "My Dear Madam," or omit the "My." "My Dear Mrs. Hatch." Friends who have known each other for years will naturally adopt more familiar salutations, which are decided by themselves on the strength of their acquaintance and good sense. So, also, members of a family, schoolmates, college chums and lovers are not expected to be bound by any particular formulas, but should avoid any silly and effusive terms of endearment.

An unmarried lady may be addressed as "Dear Miss Felton," or among friends, as "Dear Marian." It is a pity that our language does not afford us a designation for an unmarried lady similar to the French word "Mademoiselle."

SIGNATURES

To prevent confusion a lady should sign herself by her title, as "Mrs. Jennie Smith," or "Miss Flora Harlow," when writing to strangers or answering business correspondence. Never sign initials alone, as "F. Smith." That would lead most people to believe that the writer was a gentleman.

RECEIPTS

Many ladies do not know exactly how a receipt should be made out. We give two as the correct forms:

New Haven, Ct., May 1, 1899.

\$25.

Received from Henry Harvey twenty-five dollars to apply on account.
GREEN, STEPHENSON & CO.

Memphis, Tenn., Oct. 4, 1898.

\$50.

Received from Charles Bliss fifty dollars in full of all demands to date.
ZEIGLER, WATERS & CO.

There are printed forms for bank checks, drafts, notes, etc., which can be obtained at any stationer's, which renders it superfluous to give them here.

REPLYING TO LETTERS

A reply should promptly follow the receipt of a letter; it cannot be civilly delayed for any great length of time. It is customary to begin a reply by alluding to the date of the letter to which the answer is given.

One of the following forms is generally adopted:

"I hasten to answer the letter which you did me the honor of writing on the——."

"I have received the letter with which you favored me on the——."

"I have not been able, until this moment, to answer the letter which you did me the honor of writing on the——."

"I will not burden my letter with useless apologies, but confess frankly that I have been a little dilatory in replying to your kind favor of —— and hope that you will pardon me."

CLOSING A LETTER

This is a matter which also depends upon the nearness of friendship or familiarity. Either of these forms are made use of—"Yours sincerely," "Ever yours," "Truly yours," "Yours respectfully," "Cordially yours," "Very respectfully," "I have the honor to be

"Your obedient servant,
"DAVID ROBB."

The proper form will naturally suggest itself.

USE OF THE THIRD PERSON

Many people confuse the first and third persons. The use of the third person is confined to notes of invitation, and those who cling to old customs, or desire to be very formal. But if the third person is made use of, adhere to it. Don't write—"Miss Laura Lake regrets that she cannot accept Mrs. Hunt's kind invitation. I am away from the city." Or, "Mrs. Collins will call at Mr. Peck's store on Saturday to look at some rings.

"Very truly yours,
"HARRIET COLLINS."

Such a note requires no signature at all. These are errors that the best informed people are apt to make, but must be guarded against.

POSTAL CARDS

It is almost considered an insult by some people to receive a postal card. They are very useful for business purposes, or for sending orders by mail, but for social correspondence are highly improper. It is not good manners to send personal notes that are open to inspection.

SEALING WAX AND WAFERS

The use of sealing wax is again coming into favor. "Fastidious people prefer wax, but it is much better to use the regular gummed envelope than to make a great slovenly blotch on an envelope. Every lady should learn how to seal a letter neatly. A good impression may be obtained by covering the face of the seal with linseed oil, dusting it with rouge, and then pressing it firmly and rapidly on the soft wax. Either red or black wax is proper, but wafers should never be used."

A NEAT LETTER

No matter whom you are writing to, no degree of intimacy excuses a slovenly, blotted letter, which is half full of erasures. Attention to neatness and legibility is of the greatest importance. Write a plain hand, free from flourishes. An ornamental hand will do for a copy-book or writing-master, but few of your correspondents will care for gymnastics in your handwriting. Errors in grammar and spelling expose the writer to sharp criticism.

Married women are addressed by the names of their husbands. The use of the first or baptismal name signifies that the lady is single or else a widow. No letter should be sealed up until it has been read over, and any error or doubtful statement corrected.

ABBREVIATING WORDS

Abbreviations of titles, states, offices, etc., are correct; but to abbreviate common, everyday words, as some do, such as "dr." for "dear," "ans." for "answer," "&" for "and," is in bad taste. They call it "phonetic"—it should rather be dubbed foolish, if not rude. Figures are out of their place when used in a sentence to shorten it, as, "He called at 4 houses," for called at "four houses."

It is well to keep the letter you are replying to for reference, until you have answered all the points it contains. Then destroy it, making, of course, an exception now and then, in favor of some particular letter, whose writer is very dear. File business letters, or those involving some matter of importance in a business or financial way. Private

correspondence is apt to grow burdensome if permitted to accumulate, and we think many a prominent man or woman whose private letters have been published after death, would, had they a voice in the matter, protest vigorously against such an uncovering of their personal affairs.

A gentleman must not sign himself "Mr. Fred Gregory," but "Fred Gregory," or "F. T. Gregory."

Avoid repetition of the same word, in the same sentence, as "I will not speak unless Tom speaks. But if he speaks first, I may speak, too."

Do not write "Mrs. Rev. Homer Thomas," or "Mrs. Dr. Henry M. Jones," but "Rev. and Mrs. Homer Thomas," or "Dr. and Mrs. Henry M. Jones."

Avoid lengthy letters, save to members of your own family circle.

Do not trust secrets to letters, under any circumstances. And do not grumble in a letter or in speech about your surroundings.

A MODEL LETTER WRITER

In a book devoted to the best usages prevalent in society we cannot give a "model letter-writer," and therefore must content ourselves with the hints we have given. But a few words on what is required in the composition of a letter are not amiss: "Purity, propriety and precision, chiefly in regard to words and phrases; and perspicuity, unity and strength in regard to sentences. He who writes with purity avoids all phraseology that is foreign, uncouth, or ill-derived; he who writes with propriety selects the most appropriate, the very best expressions, and generally displays sound judgment and good taste; he who writes with precision is careful to state exactly what he means, all that he means, all that is necessary, and nothing more."

CHAPTER XXV.

HORSEBACK RIDING AND DRIVING

“By looking into physical causes, our minds are opened and enlarged; and in pursuit, whether we take or whether we lose the game, the chase is certainly of service.”

—BURKE.

THERE is no place where a man appears so conspicuous as when he is on horseback. And nowhere does he show to such advantage as when, mounted on a good horse, he sits enthroned as if man and horse were one, carved from the same piece of marble.

But to attain this elegance and ease, he must have had many lessons in a riding school. The boy, country raised, who has all his life dashed over highway and byway, through lanes and over hills, spurning the necessity of a saddle, with a bit of rope strung through his animal's teeth, can easily become a fearless and graceful rider. But the city-bred boy has no such opportunities. To him a horse is only to be had for hire, and so he has to depend on the instructions gained at one of the many schools for the novice.

It is very important that you preserve the etiquette of riding, in company with ladies, in the strictest manner. Three things are to be remembered, and that is, that when in the saddle, your left is the near-side, your right the off-side, and that you must always mount on the near-side. It almost seems unnecessary to tell you how to mount, and yet a good appearance depends largely on your doing this simple act gracefully. Place your left foot in the stirrup; your left hand must rest on the saddle; then spring lightly, and throw your right leg over the back of your horse. In riding, as well as in driving, you keep always to the right.

When a gentleman asks a lady for the pleasure of her company on a horseback ride, he must be sure that the horse she uses is a safe and proper one, if it is strange to her. He must also personally inspect the saddle and head-gears, lest some accident should befall her. He cannot

trust these matters to a livery-stable man, or even her own groom, as he alone is responsible for her security.

ASSISTING HER TO MOUNT

The lady will stand on the near side of the horse, with her skirt gathered in her left hand, her right resting on the pommel, and her face turned toward the horse's head. The gentleman stands at its shoulder, facing his companion, and stoops so that she may place her left foot in his hand, raising it as she springs, but not too suddenly or forcibly, lest she lose her balance and fall. He should then adjust her foot in the stirrup, and smooth down the skirt of her riding habit. She is then prepared to ride as soon as you have mounted your animal.

Many ladies do not use the side saddle, but have adopted the saddle used by gentlemen; and we think with perfect propriety, and far more safety. Of course, their riding skirt is made divided.

Keep to the left of the lady with whom you are riding.

If you have two lady companions, it is a matter of choice whether you ride between them, or on one side of them. That depends on how skilful they are in managing their horses, or how much they may need your assistance.

SETTING THE PACE

The lady must determine how fast she wishes to ride. It is unkind to urge her to greater speed than she feels able to maintain. Besides, it destroys the object for which she came out—a pleasant, healthy ride—if she is expected to dash along at a breakneck pace.

When you come to a gate, open it for her. If you are on a toll-road, pay the tolls. Never expect a lady to attend to these duties. You must anticipate her wishes, and make her comfort your first care.

MEETING FRIENDS

If you meet friends on horseback, never change your own course, for the sake of accompanying them, unless they insist upon it, and it is agreeable to the lady who is with you.

A gentleman should give the shadiest side of the road to the lady, or if he is riding with an elderly gentleman, he must pay him the same courtesy.

If a lady whom you know is walking and you desire to speak to her, dismount and lead your horse while you do so.

ASSISTING HER TO ALIGHT

In assisting the lady to alight from her horse, be sure that her habit is entirely free. She must then give her left hand to her escort, and he offers his left hand as a step for her foot. He lowers this hand gently, till she can reach the ground without springing. She should never attempt to spring from her saddle unassisted.

CARRIAGE ETIQUETTE

The choicest seat in a landau is considered the one facing the horses, and this should be yielded to the ladies. The place of honor is also on the right hand of the seat, facing the animals, and belongs also to the hostess. After the lady has taken her seat, the gentleman can enter so that his back is toward the seat he will occupy, and this prevents his turning round in the carriage, which is always an awkward proceeding.

Be careful lest you trample upon the dresses of the ladies, or close them in the door.

You must leave the carriage first, and then assist the ladies out. If a servant is with the carriage, he may hold the door open, but the gentleman must furnish the needed assistance.

It is really an art to descend from a carriage gracefully. It is related of a former Empress of Austria that she desired a princess to bring her three daughters to court that she might select one for a wife to one of her sons. They were driven in a coach to the palace gates. They had scarcely entered the royal presence when the Empress took the second daughter by the hand, and expressed her preference for her, explaining her action in the following manner:

"I watched the young ladies leave their carriage. Your eldest

daughter stepped on her dress, and only saved a fall by an awkward scramble. The youngest jumped to the ground without touching the steps. The second, just lifting her dress as she descended, calmly stepped from the carriage to the ground, neither hurriedly nor stiffly, but with grace and dignity. She is fit to be an empress. The eldest sister is too awkward, the youngest too wild."

In assisting a lady into a carriage take care that the skirt of her dress does not hang outside; cover it with the robe, and see that she has her parasol, fan and shawl.

DRIVING FAST

You may drive moderately fast when out with a lady, but not sufficiently so that the idea will be suggested that you have hired the vehicle and are showing off.

ENTERING THE CARRIAGE

Drive the buggy close to the curbstone, and turn the horses from it, so that the wheels will be away from the step. See that the horses are not restless, and hold the reins tightly in the right hand. Giving the lady the left hand, she placing her right foot on the step, and springing into the carriage. In alighting she should place her hands on his shoulders, and he should place his under her elbows, as she jumps lightly to the pavement, passing on his left side so that she will not touch the reins which he is holding to guard against accident.

In driving, the lady must be seated on the left of her escort, so that the whip hand may be free.

When driving, it is rather embarrassing to know just how to acknowledge the greetings of friends. It is impossible to raise the hat, and some gentlemen deem it good form to raise the whip to the hat. But this would shock a foreign gentleman. We think the best plan would be to incline the head a little lower than usual, and this form of salutation would be far more respectful.

Do not drive fast if it is objectionable to your companion. She may be very timid, and you have no right to disregard her fears. You

are responsible for her safety, and should be equally responsible for her comfort and pleasure.

Above all, do not race with another team. You not only endanger her life and your own, but you show a sad lack of respect for her.

DRESS FOR HORSEBACK RIDING

Where long rides are to be taken, with the possibility of a change in the weather, waterproof is a useful cloth for a riding habit. Broadcloth is far more dressy and elegant. In very hot weather a light material can be used, but a row or two of shot must be stitched in the lower edge of the left hand breadths in order that the skirt may be kept down. The most up-to-date skirt is made short.

The waist should fit very snugly, and button to the throat, where it is relieved by a white linen collar and a bright-colored necktie. Linen cuffs are worn, and leather gloves with gauntlets. Embroidery, lace or puffings are entirely out of place in a riding habit. Some wear a dress skirt under the outer one, so that if an accident to that garment occurs, it can be removed, and the rider will still be properly dressed. Riding skirts are not made as long as formerly. Equestrian tights and stout boots are needed. The hat should be plain, with no feathers to be blown in the rider's eyes. Once, the lady equestrian wore a gentleman's high silk hat with a veil, but we are happy to say that this style of headgear has gone out, with many another ugly fashion.

DRESS FOR CARRIAGE

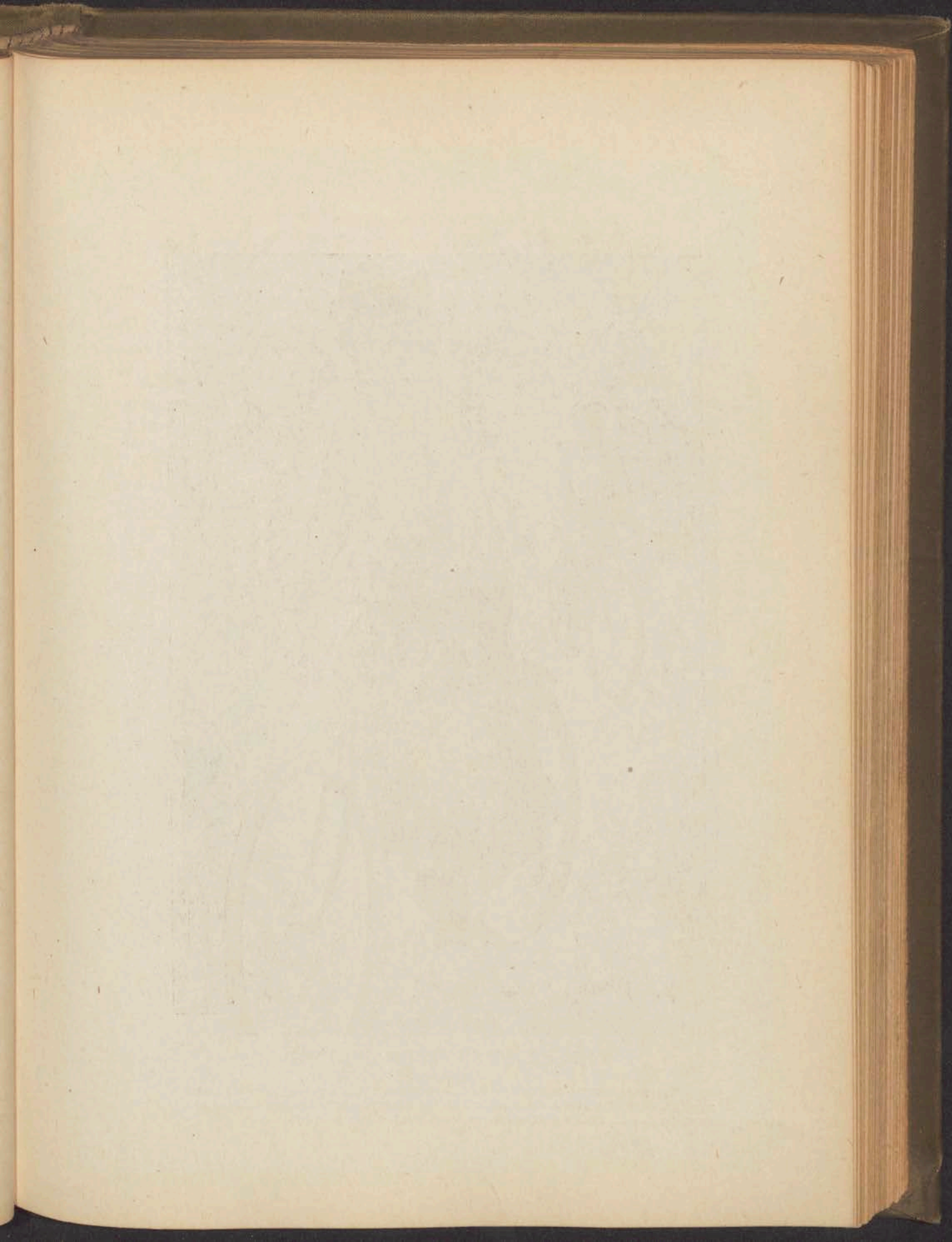
Much opportunity for display is permitted in the carriage dress. Rich and brilliant colors, elaborate wraps, costly materials, are allowable here. The dresses for driving are some of them almost as elaborate as dinner dresses were once. Every color of the rainbow is seen, and yet delicate materials and hues are not fit to stand the glare of the sun and the onslaughts of wind and dust.

This lavish display of glaring colors seems out of place in such conspicuous places. The coaching parties have helped to still further increase this development of false taste, but we see it stated that the

Princess of Wales, whose taste and common-sense are markedly clear, openly reprov'd this strange jumbling of orange silk, rich laces and pearly silks by appearing at a coaching parade attired in a close-fitting suit of navy blue flannel.

We believe the day of over-dressing in public places among the best people is past. Wear the gayest colors and the most beautiful costumes at receptions, dancing parties, dinners, and kindred occasions, but observe a fitness in time and place. If the taste inclines to bright colors, remember there are lovely shades in serges, nun's veiling and drap d'étés; but do not make the error of wearing ball dresses in public.







THE ETIQUETTE OF CYCLING

(SEE PAGE 247)

"IN THOSE VERNAL SEASONS OF THE YEAR, WHEN THE AIR IS SOFT AND PLEASANT, IT WERE AN INJURY AND A SULLENNESS AGAINST NATURE, NOT TO GO OUT AND SEE HER RICHES AND PARTAKE OF HER REJOICING WITH HEAVEN AND EARTH."—Milton.

CHAPTER XXVI.

CYCLING, GOLF, DANCING AND GAMES

"If those who are the enemies of innocent amusements had the direction of the world, they would take away the spring and youth—the former from the year, and the latter from the human life."

—BALZAC.

ETIQUETTE for lovers of sport is as essential for guidance as it is for the young debutante in society. Among the sports so general, and so faithfully followed, we must first class cycling, for it has taken such a firm hold upon all classes and all ages as to demand recognition. To the hundreds of men and women the wheel is the greatest

benefaction of the time, not only affording rapid transit to and from places of business, but is also a delightful and healthful recreation. Eti-

quette on Cycling is imperative, and although of necessity many of the rules thereof, being deduced from individual opinions and the customs of certain localities, are extremely elastic; others are the same the world over and will be observed by all who respect the best "form." Here we wish to record a protest against following English or French form. If there is one thing of which more than another



the American woman should be proud, it is the independence accorded to her in matters of this kind, and the confidence in her womanhood, the faith in her uprightness this independence implies. The saying that, as a rule, "A woman receives no attention (desirable or otherwise) which she does not invite," is as true of the woman cyclist as the one who travels by steam car, street car or the simple pedestrian. On account of the lower estimate placed upon womanhood in foreign countries, the constant attendance either of an elderly woman or one of the other sex may there be needful, but

IN AMERICA

the woman who minds her business may go wherever duty calls her.

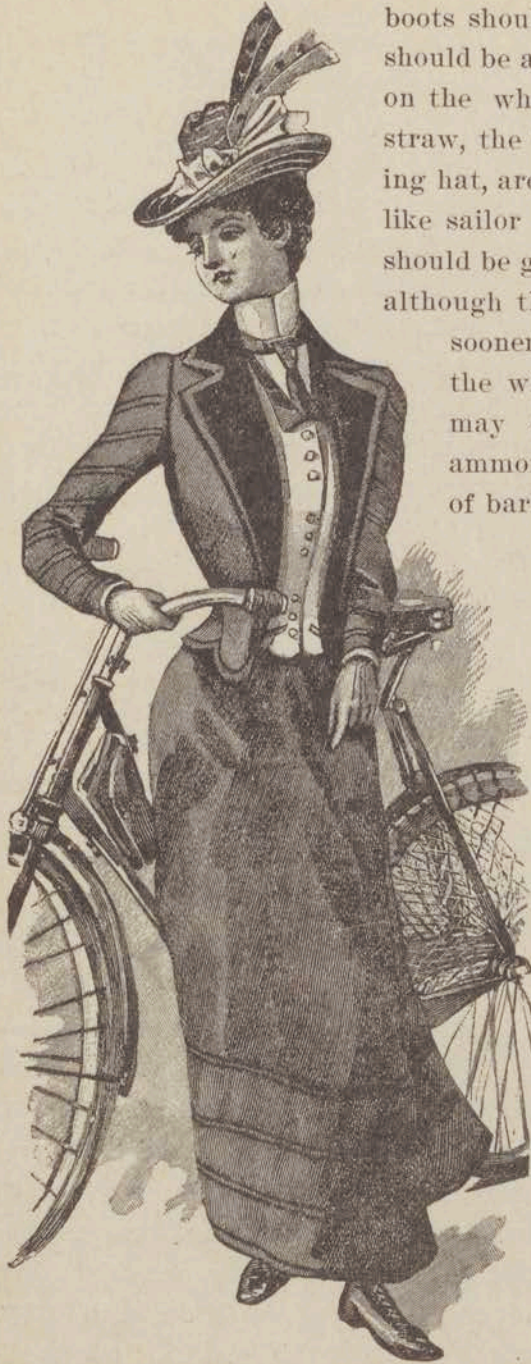
Of course, the first essential in cycling is a perfect wheel, safe, easy-running, with saddle built high and wide in the back, sloping away and downward in front, and fitted out with a clock, a bell, luggage carrier, and if the rider cares for records, a cyclometer.

A lady can be as reserved upon a wheel as in her parlor. No lady will permit a stranger to accost her, even if she is riding alone, unless an accident or mishap to herself or wheel occurs, and then a true gentleman may offer his assistance, which may be accepted or not, without misconstruction or familiarity.

The etiquette to be observed in cycling is to be civil to all; assist the timid, and do not mock or laugh at awkwardness. If you have an appointment to ride with a lady, be punctual, and accommodate your pace to hers. A good rule to be observed in this respect is to never go faster than you find it possible, and breathe through the nostrils. The moment you are inclined to open your mouth you may know that you are over-exerting yourself. Of course this advice would fall numb on the ears of a "scorcher."

COSTUME FOR THE WHEEL

Bloomers have been proven so inartistic, so ugly and so "loud" that few ladies can be induced to wear them. The most quiet costume, consisting of a skirt, two-thirds from the knee to the sole of the foot, a jacket, either tight-fitting or blouse, makes a modest outfit. The



boots should be high, or leather leggins should be adopted. Never wear low shoes on the wheel. An outing hat of rough straw, the Tam O'Shanter, or a felt walking hat, are all pretty and tasteful. Some like sailor hats. The colors for the suit should be gray, brown, dark blue, or black, although the latter shows dust and mud sooner. An invitation to a ride on the wheel needs no formality, and may always be verbal. Have an ammonia gun with you, for the benefit of barking dogs who are bent on running in front of you, and giving you a "header." Always carry an extra wrap or a loose jacket to guard against those obstinate inflictions termed summer colds. Don't wear a yachting cap, chew gum, or bend your back over the handle bars. Either of these things is far from ladylike.

A GENTLEMAN ESCORT

The gentleman who accompanies ladies must be ever watchful to assist his companions in every way. He should be capable of repairing any trifling injury to their machines which may occur on the route, and be at all times

provided with the proper tools for so doing. His place on the road is at

her left, that he may the more carefully guard her when meeting other cyclers, teams, etc., he risking all danger from collisions.

MOUNTING

The gentleman accompanying the lady holds her wheel; she stands at the left, places her right foot across the frame to the right pedal, which at the same time must be raised; pushing this pedal causes the machine to start, and then with the left foot in place she starts ahead very slowly, in order to give her companion time to mount his wheel and join her. When their destination is reached the gentleman dismounts first and appears at his companion's side to assist her, but if she be a true American woman she will help herself as much as possible.

DISMOUNTING

To dismount in the most graceful form one should gradually slacken speed, and when the left pedal is on the rise throw the weight of the body upon it, cross the right foot over the frame of the machine, and with an assisting hand step with a light spring to the ground.

In meeting a party of cyclists who are acquaintances and desire to stop for a little conversation the gentlemen of the party dismount and sustain the ladies' wheels, the latter retaining their positions in the saddle.

HOW TO RIDE

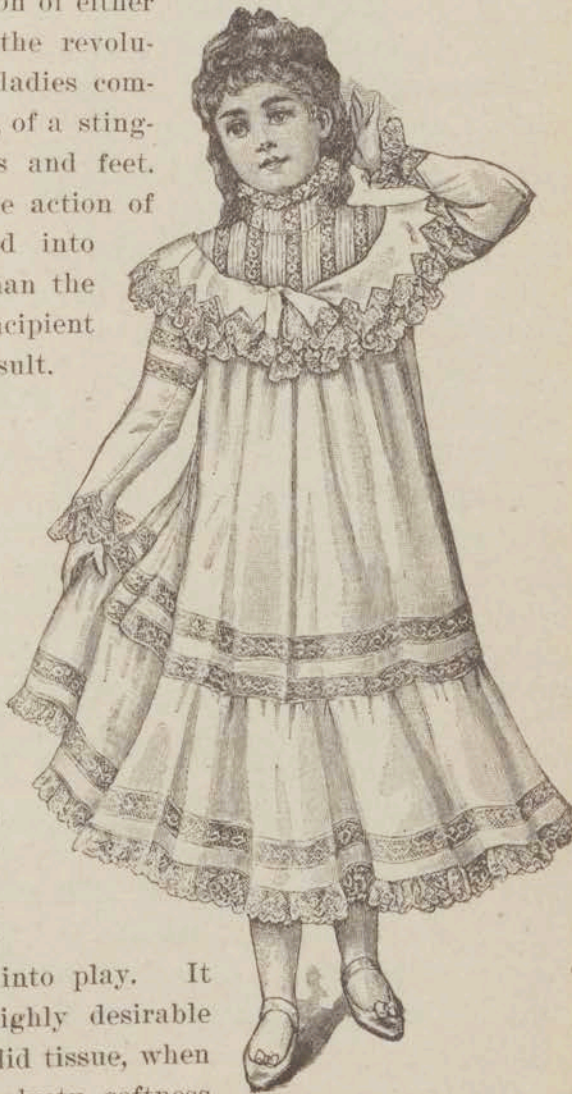
Above all else a lady should at all times maintain an upright position, and on this account should be provided with a machine on which the handles turn upward rather than downward. The stooping posture assumed by so many ladies on the wheel is not only coarse and decidedly ugly, but exceedingly harmful, and will, in a very short time, tend to curvature of the spine, compression of the lungs and their consequent diseases. Many riders claim that one rides much more easily, when facing the wind, to bend forward, and thus break its force, but it were far better to ride a shorter distance than to risk the ills of which we have spoken. Indeed, no woman should ever ride after a feeling of

weariness is experienced; the strain on the nerves and muscles is great and should never be protracted after Nature gives the warning.

The limit of speed is only a little less important than the limit of distance, which is designated by the feeling of weariness. No man can ride at full speed for long distances and still retain health and perfect vigor, and it is certain that no woman can maintain a high rate of speed for one mile without laying the foundation for future suffering. There is no relaxation of the tension of either muscles or nerves between the revolutions of the pedals. Many ladies complain, after riding for a time, of a stinging sensation in the limbs and feet. This is caused by the undue action of the heart forcing the blood into the arteries more rapidly than the veins can return it, and incipient paralysis or apoplexy may result.

TANDEM WHEELS

are very popular, for they give a sense of nearness and protection. Still, the genius who invents a double wheel providing for sitting side by side will have the blessings of many who like to see the face of their fair companion. Properly used, the bicycle is considered a promoter of health, developing, as it does, muscles which are otherwise seldom brought into play. It secures for women that highly desirable condition of flesh, a firm, solid tissue, when muscles are flexed and a velvety softness with muscular relaxation.



REMINDEES FOR THE USE OF CYCLERS

Don't try to raise your hat to a lady passing you until you are an expert on your wheel.

Don't wear a red or gay-colored cap, under the impression that it is stylish.

Don't laugh at the figure other riders present, for it is not given us to

"Sae oorsel's as ithers sae us."

Don't neglect to turn to the right in passing another wheel or a vehicle.

Don't ride fast down a steep hill with a curve at its foot.

Don't ride fifteen miles at a scorching pace, and then drink copiously of water and lie down on the grass.

Don't carry your bicycle down stairs under your arm. Your shoulder is better adapted to it.

Don't leave your wheel in a dark hall for other people to fall over.

GOLF

The game which now commands so much attention is a very trying one to both nerves and the temper, and therefore good breeding enjoins upon those who play golf the necessity for strictly watching themselves, lest, in the excitement of the moment, they commit a breach of politeness. The game is slow, long and difficult, and the handicap is almost impossible to arrange with precision and justice.

ETIQUETTE OF GOLF

A single player has no standing and must always give way to a properly constituted match.

No player, caddie, or onlooker should move or talk during a stroke.

No player should play from the tee until the party in front played their second strokes, and are out of range, nor play up to the putting green till the party in front have holed out and moved away.

The player who has the honor should be allowed to play before his opponent tees his ball.

Players who have holed out should not try their putts over again when other players are following them.

Players looking for a lost ball must allow other matches coming up to pass them.

On request being made, a three-ball match must allow a single, threesome or foursome to pass. Any match playing a whole round may claim the right to pass a match playing a shorter round.

If a match fail to keep its place on the green, and lose in distance more than one clear hole on those in front, it may be passed, on request being made.

Turf cut or displaced by a stroke should be at once replaced.

A player should carefully fill up all holes made by himself in a bunker.

It is the duty of an umpire to take cognizance of any breach of rule that he may observe, whether he be appealed to or not.

DANCING

Dancing has become so generally acknowledged to be an innocent recreation, and is practiced so universally, that the etiquette of dancing demands a place here.

Why should people rail at Germans and balls as vain displays of fashion and finery? They represent far more than this: they are gatherings of the grave and the gay, the witty and the wise; a cementing together of all the varied elements which compose modern society into one symmetrical whole; an aid to the acquisition of that ease of manner which all wish to possess.

The pleasures which these entertainments introduce are lasting in their refining influence. Society is a school where friendly interchange brings out the finer feelings, and quickens the indolent and careless into action by observation and emulation.

The list of dances offered by society to its votaries is sufficiently extensive to embrace all ages, and all tastes.

FASHIONABLE DANCES

Among the most popular American dances may be mentioned the

galop, which is danced to quick music; the polka, which may be made very spirited, especially so when the "hop, three glides and a rest" is danced to the music of two-four time. Another is the quadrille. The last dance may be considered the conversational dance. One can indulge in a lot of small talk, which, with smiles, renders the dance very pleasant to all participants.

THE "GERMAN"

While the German is to-day the most fashionable dance in society, it should only be introduced at select parties, never at a public ball. It is the most "taking" dance there is for the closing of an evening's programme, all the couples in attendance being permitted to dance if they choose. To be voted a success, however, the leading couple must exhibit great skill in formations of figures. Of the latter there are many, some of which can be made exceedingly clever.

INFORMAL DANCES

The informal dance is very popular, from its informal character. Invitations are sent on "at home" cards, with the word "dancing" added, to indicate the sort of entertainment to be given. The hostess receives the guests just inside the parlor. Tea and coffee are offered to the guests at the end of the first dance, and the usual ices are served all through the afternoon. Between each dance guests go to and fro from the tea-room. Servants stand behind the tables for the purpose of passing what is needed. Refreshments are of the simplest character.

HOW TO GIVE A DANCING PARTY

Invitations to "dances" should be sent out from ten days to two weeks previous, and should be responded to at once, that the hostess may know about how many to entertain. These invitations may be informal or quite elaborate as the hostess sees fit to issue.

Guests may arrive at the ball-room at any hour between eight and nine. Avoid going too early.

Four musicians are ample provision for the musical part, and the largest room in the house should be used for the ball. It should be as

barren of furniture as possible. Pictures and carpets should be removed, and only a row of chairs left standing against the wall for the use of the lookers-on, and the tired dancers, when their partners lead them to a seat.

Invite the guests to a number that will prevent crowding, and endeavor to make up a company of those who approve of and are fond of dancing.

Do not wound the prejudices of those who are opposed to dancing by inviting them to grace the occasion.

There should be a dressing-room for the gentlemen, where a manservant should be in readiness to take the hats, coats and canes and to show any attention required. The ladies' dressing room should be provided with several glasses, brushes, combs, hair pins and all the accessories of the toilet. A maid should be in attendance to assist the ladies.

After the ladies have adjusted their toilets, they rejoin their escorts, proceed to the ball-room, and advance toward the host and hostess, where they pay their respects in a few well-chosen words. The ladies and gentlemen are then free to walk about, indulge in snatches of conversation, or amuse themselves as best they can until dancing begins. A lady should always dance the first dance with her escort.

WHO RECEIVES THE GUESTS

The duty of receiving the guests belongs to the hostess, but the host should always be at hand to assist her if needed. When there are sons in the family giving the ball, they should look after the interests of the young ladies, procuring them partners for the dances, and assisting in every other way needed. The daughters of the house must see that their friends are enjoying themselves, and not dance while other young ladies are being neglected.

MISCELLANEOUS DANCING RULES

As introductions at balls are understood to be for the purpose of dancing, it is not necessary to recognize the person introduced to you

afterward, though it is polite to bow. A gentleman must not solicit more than two dances from a young lady whom he has met for the first time that evening.

It is very poor taste for a gentleman and lady to place their joined hands against the hip or side of the gentleman. Always keep the hands clear of the body.

Gentlemen should be constantly on the watch during round dances to see that he and his partner do not collide with other couples. Such an accident would mark him a poor dancer.

Noisy talking is improper in a ball-room.

Never overlook or refuse to fill an engagement upon your card or erase the name in favor of some other gentleman. It is unpardonable.

White gloves (kid of course) are worn. Light and very delicate shades are permitted, also. Gloves are removed from the hands at supper.

A married couple should not dance together more than once in an evening.

If a lady refuses to dance with a gentleman, unless she is previously engaged, she should remain seated until that dance is finished.

A lady should not enter the ball-room leaning on the arm of her escort. She should enter first, the gentleman closely following.

In asking a lady to dance, the correct form is, "May I have the pleasure of the next waltz (or german) with you?" If accepted, the gentleman should enter her name on his card, and his last name on hers.

When a gentleman's hands perspire, and there should be danger of soiling his partner's dress, by contact while waltzing, it is an evidence of care to hold his handkerchief in his hand to shield the dress. A gentleman will never encircle the waist of his partner for a waltz until the music begins, and will remove his arm as soon as it ceases.

AN ANCIENT EXERCISE

Dancing is almost as old as the world. The oldest records of the race, sacred and profane, allude to it. An English writer declares that it "brings young people together for a sensible and innocent recreation, and takes

them away from silly if not bad ones." In most ancient nations it was part of their religious rites. Aristotle ranked dancing with poetry, and Socrates took pains to learn the art. The Spartans passed a law requiring parents to train their children in dancing after the age of five years. The modern dances practiced for amusement are, however, much quieter and less exciting than the old ones associated with religion and war.

CARD PLAYING

Although card playing in the family circle and at social gatherings is now recognized as a perfectly harmless amusement, yet there can be found many who have conscientious scruples against cards, and such people should not be asked or urged to play. If, however, there are no such objections to cards, it is rude to refuse to join in a game which cannot be played unless you help make up the required number.

Married and elderly people take the precedence at cards.

NEVER ASK FOR CARDS

Guests should never call for a game of cards, but leave the suggestion to the host or hostess. The preferable way is to furnish cards and tables, and letting who prefer a game of cards to conversation or music suit their own tastes.

Soiled cards should never be used for any occasion.

HUSBAND AND WIFE AS PARTNERS

Husbands and wives should not play as partners, for their knowledge of each other's modes of playing gives them an unfair advantage of their opponents.

A gentleman or lady will never cheat at cards, and they will not get excited or lose their temper.

PROGRESSIVE CARD PARTIES

These have become so much in vogue that a word or two regarding the etiquette of same is quite appropriate here. There are various ways of conducting them. It frequently happens that they form a series of entertainments for the winter. In this case a certain number of mem-

bers constitute a club. Each lady member then generally entertains the club in the manner following the letters of the alphabet. Mrs. A. holds the first party, Mrs. B. the second and so on. The dress suitable on these occasions can be simple or more elaborate, according to the wearer's taste and means.

The main point to consider in everything connected with the game is to yield to the deference of others. A self-willed woman, the one lacking the consideration for others—showing by every act and look that she is working for the prize, is soon silently voted a selfish and undesirable member, and in all probability will not be invited to join the second season.

Cheating at all times is in the worst of "form."

SILENCE BEST

Do not keep up a running fire of remarks while playing, for it distracts the attention from the game. Attend closely to the matter in hand, and keep a dignified silence. Do not hurry up some one who is a little slow, it confuses them, and places you in a bad light.

BETTING

Betting is considered very poor form, although English society occasionally sanctions the risking of small sums.

DEALING THE CARDS

Let the cards lie on the table until all have been dealt. You have an equal chance with others in deciding what you will do. It is well to have a fair knowledge of the many games, so that you can contribute to the pleasure of others. Ladies should always cut for deal.

CHAPTER XXVII.

COURTSHIP AND ITS DEMANDS

“Love is the purification of the heart from self; it strengthens and ennobles the character, gives higher motive and a nobler aim to every action of life, and makes both man and woman strong, noble and courageous; and the power to love truly and devotedly is the noblest gift with which a human being can be endowed; but it is a sacred fire that must not be burnt to idols.”

—MISS JEWSBURY.

COURTSHIP is that delightful boundary land where a lady and gentleman, attracted toward each other by real (or fancied) tastes and aims, see only the beloved, and where no thought or dread of the future intrudes—that future which brings to both griefs and joys innumerable. When courtship, that halcyon period, is properly conducted, and its lessons heeded, it is the sweetest period of life.

The first ingredient in this attraction between man and woman should be unselfish love. No amount of respect or confidence is of any value without it has unselfish love for its foundation. Cynics and disappointed ones may sneer at the passion, but it is after all the pivot on which the world revolves, and without it patience, forbearance and unselfishness will ever be lacking.

God implanted this beautiful sentiment in the hearts of His kind. And when courtship is properly conducted, the marriage which follows it is based on a solid structure. There are two kinds of courtship: the right kind, where both parties study the heart and mind, the tastes, the aims of the other, striving to harmonize and mould them into one perfect whole, and the wrong kind, where deceit and cunning are practiced, where pretence takes the place of honesty, where the true nature and the life is clouded. The last is not love—it is merely a desire to gain an object at any hazard, letting the future take care of itself.

DUTY OF PARENTS

Parents are often accused of having little sympathy with the young

in their attachments. No doubt it is true that they have laid themselves open to this charge, but they have not intended in the sense which is implied. Had they, however, more sympathy of the proper sort they would teach their daughters the duties which married life brings; they would instruct them that happiness is impossible where the intended husband's habits are wrong; that, as he demands truth, purity, uprightness, so must he give it in return.

But what shall we say of the parents who would urge a union for their pure young daughter with a man whom she hates, whose life has been a wild scene of fast living, because he is rich, and "an eligible party." Is there a baser deed than this? They go about in society triumphing in their success. What are honor and fidelity and all the heavenly virtues! Subjects for ridicule. They have sold their child for wealth, luxury, and worldly pleasures, and their friends smile in derision. Another life is shipwrecked.

PROPOSING MARRIAGE

In France this step is taken by first asking the parents' consent to wooing the young lady, and all preliminaries are settled by them. In England the young man first asks the consent of the father and mother ere he addresses himself to the daughter. Here the matter is left wholly to the young people. Which way is productive of most happiness in the married relation? We leave our readers to decide.

But as courtship precedes the engagement, it is proper to understand the etiquette of this trying period; for after the engagement, it is a very delicate matter to withdraw should either party so desire. A long, happy courtship, where the hearts of both are unfolding in the sunshine of love, is far more conducive to married happiness than a brief and hasty one, where neither has had opportunity to study the other.

How easy to adjust differences beforehand! Plans can be laid for the future, hopes shared, and all the social demands enjoyed together. No man has a right to propose marriage to a girl until his prospects and position justify him in offering her his hand in marriage. A fortune

is not needed, but a permanent and comfortable position will set his mind at rest, and free hers from the fear of privation and neglect.

THE ENGAGEMENT RING

As soon as the engagement is made, it is the custom for the gentleman to present his fiancée with a ring. Do not give a diamond unless it can be afforded. Some give a little circlet of gold, and some give rings set with stones. Again, some are fortunate enough to have an heirloom which they can bestow upon the loved one, and which she would cherish far beyond the most brilliant diamond. The ring, be it what it may, should be worn on the ring finger of the left hand

CONDUCT TOWARD A FIANCÉE

The manner of the gentleman should be marked by the utmost politeness toward the lady he has chosen. He should not, however, forget that he has duties to perform in the social circle, and that he must pay those attentions to other ladies that mark him as a gentleman. The fiancée is also entitled to courtesies at the hands of other gentlemen, and both can show how fully they trust and confide in each other, without making themselves appear exclusive.

THE PARENTS' DUTY

The young man now has the entrée of the fiancée's household. He should not abuse it, however, by too great freedom or familiarity. He should be dignified, and attentive to his future mother-in-law. He should take interest in the thoughts and habits of the new relatives, but should not be familiar or intrusive, holding himself in reserve, nor presuming to dictate.

The affianced's parents should make the first advances toward the lady of their son's choice by calling, or writing and by inviting her to visit them, that they may become better acquainted.

Long engagements often terminate unhappily, from what cause it is hard to explain. And yet short ones are equally hazardous.

BROKEN ENGAGEMENTS

If any circumstance forces the disrupting of an engagement, great tenderness should be exhibited. Let every gift, the ring, all photographs and letters that have been exchanged, be returned to each. Especially careful should he be to restore every scrap of writing which she has sent him, nor has he a right to give any explanation as to his course save to the lady herself. She, too, should preserve the strictest secrecy as to the reasons for breaking the engagement should she be the one to withdraw.

CHANGING ONE'S HABITS

Up to the time of the engagement the affianced has associated much with his own sex. He has, perhaps, formed habits of smoking, late hours, suppers, etc. It is now proper to make a change. All these acts will have great influence upon the loved one. He has now entered into new relations, and his life must conform to her wishes. Clubs and societies rob her of companionship. A home will soon have to be built, and these minor temptations should be ignored wholly.

The fiancée should give up her frivolities and flirtations. She is to become a helpmeet, and must set about preparing herself for the new responsibilities that will come.

SUGGESTIONS

An engaged man has no right to appear at public places with other ladies while she remains at home. He is now her sole escort, and the claims of all others should be put aside when she wishes his services. Neither should she accept any escort but his when he can attend her.

A lady should not be too gushing in the exhibition of her regard. Always maintain a modest reserve, and if by any untoward chance the engagement should be broken, she will not need blush over undue affection. He will respect her discretion.

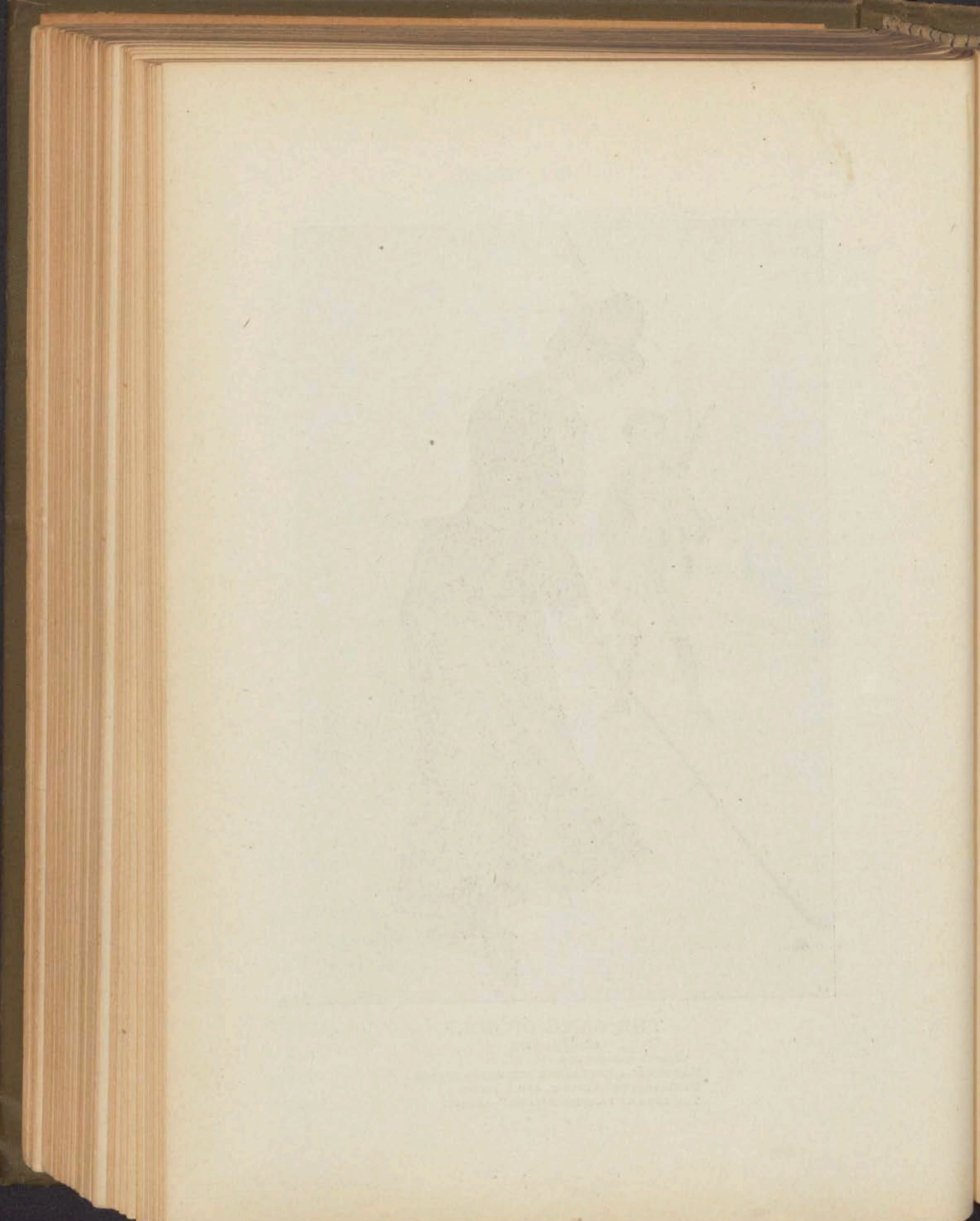
A young man should never prolong his evening visit later than ten o'clock, unless the visit is a family one, and they are all in the habit of sitting up late.



THE GAME OF GOLF

(SEE PAGE 254)

"SIGHTS AND SOUNDS.
NOR RURAL SIGHTS ALONE, BUT RURAL SOUNDS
EXHILARATE THE SPIRIT, AND RESTORE
THE TONE OF LANGUID NATURE."—*Cowper*.



Do not try the affection of either by making the other jealous. Sometimes the regard is forever lost by such a course.

A domineering lover will make a domineering husband.

WHAT AND WHEN IN "GOOD FORM"

After the engagement is announced, it is in order for the lover to make elegant presents to the lady, if he so desires.



JUST PRECEDING MARRIAGE

It is correct for a lady to drive alone with her intended in frequented places, or in lonely country roads in case it becomes necessary.

She can now go out for a quiet walk after wedding cards are issued. Once this was deemed very improper.

It is the custom now for the young lady to write to her intimate

friends telling them that her engagement will be announced soon. It is then proper for the friends to call or send a note of congratulation.

COURTESIES DUE EACH OTHER

If business calls either of the loved ones away for a time, don't omit to write often, if only the shortest letter. These silent messengers cement the affections, and keep them from dying out.

Do not show obstinacy. Both must yield occasionally to the other. A spirit of forbearance and concession softens the asperities of life, and makes home beautiful.

WHEN TO BE MARRIED

In ancient times the most desirable month for marriage was the month of June. Modern dames, however, look with favor upon October as well as June. May sometimes finds favor, for the rest and reflections of Eastertime renders the bride serious and peaceful, a condition almost unnatural at other seasons. Yet May, by others, is considered an unlucky month—the same as Friday is considered an unlucky day and the 13th of the month an unlucky date, still it is the apple-blossom month in the north and one can have an apple-blossom wedding, which is very sweet and suggestive, but who had not rather have a June wedding, with June roses, or an October wedding, with the leaves all red and golden?

CHAPTER XXVIII.

WEDDINGS, AND HOW TO CONDUCT THEM

“A good wife is Heaven’s last best gift to man—his angel and minister of graces innumerable—his gem of many virtues—his casket of jewels;—her voice is sweet music—her smiles, his brightest day—her kiss, the guardian of his innocence—her arms, the pale of his safety, the balm of his health, the balsam of his life—her industry, his purest wealth—her economy, his safest steward—her lips, his faithful counselors—her bosom, the softest pillow of his cares—and her prayers, the ablest advocates of Heaven’s blessings on his head.”

—JEREMY TAYLOR.

AN INSTITUTION of such antiquity as marriage, and invested with its rich glow of romance and poesy, will never go out of fashion. Since the wedding of Cana, the ceremonies and customs attending a wedding have been fraught with continual interest.

A wedding is an important event in any family. It invests each individual member with dignity, from the paterfamilias down to the wee toddler whose big sister is the heroine of the coming affair.

A book on etiquette would be very incomplete which omitted some instructions upon the forms to be observed in the conducting of a wedding, for marriage is a religious as well as a legal rite. These customs have been handed down from generation to generation through the churches, those conservators of so many good things. But although these forms are in their general outline ever the same, they may be varied to agree with individual tastes and means.

OUTLAY OFTEN TOO GREAT

Sometimes parents, through natural anxiety to do their loved ones all possible honor, exceed their means and incur expenses which they can ill afford. And yet, who can censure them, when it be remembered that the great event marks the turning point in the life of the fair young daughter who soon leaves the old home to become the mistress of a new home—its guiding star.

Therefore, it is not strange that parents and friends look forward eagerly to the joyous festive occasion. Were but a small portion of the kindly wishes uttered in behalf of the young couple realized, the marriage state would be perpetual sunshine.

Should clouds, however, arise, and dark days come, with love at the helm, and an earnest mutual determination to do right, and to live for each other, a newly married pair can smile at any fate.

THE BETROTHAL

Before the wedding comes the betrothal. This is a halcyon period.

"He that feels
No love for woman, has no heart for them,
Nor friendship or affection!—he is foe
To all the finer feelings of the soul;
And to sweet Nature's holiest, tenderest ties,
A heartless renegade."

There is no formal announcement of a betrothal in this country, except as the information finds its way in the society columns of the newspaper; but in other lands the festivities are very gay. It is in good taste here, however, for the father of the bride to give a dinner and announce the engagement before rising from the table. Congratulations are then in order.

IN HONOR OF THE COMING EVENT

After the engagement has been communicated to the friends, those who are in the habit of entertaining may give receptions, dinners or theater parties to the engaged couple if they so desire.

THE BRIDE NAMES THE DAY

It is the expected bride's prerogative to name the "happy day." Tastes are divided as to the most desirable months. May is shunned by those who are in the least superstitious, as it is deemed unlucky. The ancient Romans, who were dominated by omens and signs, regarded it as an unfortunate month, and Ovid said, "That time, too, was not auspicious for the marriage torches of the widow or of the virgin. She who married then, did not long remain a wife." Just after Easter seems

a favorite season for weddings, and the fall months are also much liked.

THE LADY'S CARDS

Immediately preceding the sending out of the invitations for the marriage, the bride that is to be, leaves her card at the homes of her friends in person, but does not make a call, unless she makes an exception in favor of an aged or sick person.

After this formality has been attended to, and the invitations are distributed, the young lady should not appear in public.

SENDING OUT INVITATIONS

If the ceremony is to take place in church, to be followed by a reception, invitations are sent ten days in advance. Church weddings can be made very pretty, and are quite in consonance with the solemnity of the occasion. It is an ecclesiastical affair, and should be performed in the sanctuary. It is quite fashionable to be wedded in church, and return to the house to don the traveling costume and leave for a matrimonial trip.

The most commonly accepted form of invitation is worded thus:

MR. AND MRS. THOMAS CLARKE
request your presence
at the marriage of their daughter
GLADYS
to
CHARLES W. ALLEN,
on Tuesday evening, March 11th,
at eight o'clock,
Christ Church, Indianapolis.

This invitation includes only the ceremony at the church. Those friends whose presence is desired at the reception receive a card of this nature, inclosed with the invitation:

MR. AND MRS. THOMAS CLARKE
At home,
Tuesday evening, March 11th,
from half-past eight until eleven o'clock.
62 Elizabeth St.

A card still more simple is preferred; as—

Reception at 62 Elizabeth St. at half-past eight.

ADMISSION CARDS TO CHURCH

An admission card to a church strikes one rather disagreeably, and yet where both parties have an extensive acquaintance, they are necessary to prevent over-crowding, and are worded thus:

Christ Church.

Ceremony at eight o'clock.

Present card at door.

Invitations should be printed or engraved upon note-paper of excellent quality, and the envelope must fit the inclosed invitation closely.

MARRIAGE COSTUMES

Many very fashionable people who dislike the excitement and display of a public wedding, are married in their traveling costumes, with no one but the family and a few very near friends present. All expenses are paid by the bride, save the license and the clergyman's fee. A quiet wedding is always the rule, after a recent death in the family, or some other affliction.

CHOOSING BRIDES-MAIDS

Brides-maids are taken from the relatives or most intimate friends—the sisters of the bride and of the bridegroom where possible. The bridegroom chooses his groomsmen and ushers from his circle of relatives and friends of his own age, and from the relatives of his fiancée of a suitable age. The brides-maids should be a little younger than the bride. These should be from two to six in number, and they should exercise taste in dress, looking as pretty as possible, being careful, however, not to outshine the bride. White is the accepted dress for brides-maids, but they are not limited to this. They can select light and delicate colors, showing care that everything harmonizes. Pink, blue, sea-green, ecru, or lavender, makes a very pretty contrast to the bride, who should invariably be clothed in white.

The addition of some pretty children under ten, who follow the brides-maids in the procession to the altar, and who are called flower girls, is a beautiful innovation.

PRESENTS TO BRIDES-MAIDS

A brides-maid must never disappoint the bride by a failure to keep her engagement. Only severe sickness or death will excuse her. It is quite customary for the bride to bestow some present on each brides-maid, while the groom remembers each groomsman in a similar manner.

It is also a pretty custom for the bride to give a dinner to the brides-maids the evening previous to the wedding.

THE WEDDING-RING CEREMONY

The wedding-ring is used in the marriage service of nearly all denominations. It is always a plain gold band, no longer heavy and solid, but a rather narrow circlet.

The use of the wedding-ring is a very ancient custom. It is probable that it was used by the Swiss Lake dwellers, and other primitive people. In very early times it was common among the Hebrews, who possibly borrowed it from the Egyptians, among whom, as well as the Greeks and the Romans, the wedding-ring was worn. An English book on etiquette, published in 1732, says, the bride may choose on which finger the ring shall be placed, and it says some brides prefer the thumb, others the index finger, others the middle finger, "because it is the largest," and others the fourth finger, because "a vein proceeds from it to the heart."

The engagement ring is removed at the altar by the bridegroom, who passes the wedding-ring (a plain gold band, with the date and the initials engraved inside) to the clergyman, to be used by him in the ceremony. On the way home from church, or as soon thereafter as convenient, the bridegroom may put the engagement ring back on the bride's finger, to stand guard over its precious fellow. Some husbands who like to observe these pretty little fancies, present their wives of a year's standing with another ring, either chased or plain, to be worn on the wedding-ring finger, and which is called the "keeper." This, too, is supposed to "stand guard" over the wedding-ring.

DUTIES OF THE "BEST MAN" AT CHURCH

The groomsmen at a wedding, of whom there are generally four or more, have a multitude of duties to perform. One of them is chosen master of ceremonies, and his office is to be early at church, and having a list of the invited guests, he must allot a space for their accommodation by stretching a cord or ribbon (sometimes a circle of natural flowers) across the aisles for a boundary line. He sees that the organist has the musical program at hand; that the hassocks on which the bride and groom kneel are in their proper position, and covered with a spotless white cloth. He escorts ladies to seats, and asks, if necessary, the names of those who are unknown to him, that he may, by consulting his list, place the relatives and nearest friends of the bride by the altar.

USHERS AT THE HOUSE

Two of the groomsmen, as soon as the pair are made one, hasten to the house at which the reception is to be held, to receive the newly wedded pair and their guests.

CONDUCTING THE GUESTS

Another duty of the ushers at the house is to conduct the guests to the bride and groom, and present those who may not have been acquainted. They introduce the guests to the parents. It frequently happens that members of the two families, living at a distance, have never met; so it becomes necessary to introduce them. In all such cases the gentleman who is the escort of a lady follows her with the usher, and is in turn introduced.

The usher attends to every lady who has no escort, and sees at supper that she is properly served.

HOW THE USHERS DRESS

The dress of the ushers must consist of the regulation full evening toilet—white neckties, and delicately tinted gloves. They may also wear a handsome button-hole bouquet.

PROCEEDING TO THE ALTAR

In proceeding to the altar, the flower girls walk first. Then the brides-maids follow, each leaning on the arm of a groomsman, while the mother of the bride comes next, on the arm of the groom. The bride enters leaning on her father's arm, or the next male relative who is much her senior in years. They pass to the altar, the brides-maids turning to the left, the groomsmen to the right. The groom places the mother just behind the brides-maids, or seats her in a front pew at the left. The father remains standing where he can give away the bride, who stands at the left of the groom.

In some cases the groom prefers not to walk down the aisle with the bridal party, but comes in at the study door and meets the bride at the altar. In either case he walks out with her.

LEAVING THE ALTAR

Soon as the couple have been pronounced one, the head brides-maid puts aside the veil from the face of the bride and they then proceed down the aisle, the bridal pair walking first. The brides-maids and groomsmen follow next, the father and mother being last.

MARRIED IN A TRAVELING DRESS

If a bride is married in her traveling dress, she wears a hat or bonnet. The groom is dressed in dark clothes. They do not require brides-maids or groomsmen, but have ushers, while the groom has his "best man," whose place it is to attend to necessary details.

STARING AT THE BRIDAL PARTY

The guests should not rush out of church for the purpose of collecting on the sidewalk to get a look at the bride. They should remain quietly in the church until the wedding procession has passed out.

THE RECEPTION

At the reception following, half of the brides-maids stand on the left of the bride and half on the left of the groom.

Kissing the bride is fast going out of fashion in the best circles. It is a dreadful ordeal for a young and timid bride, and should be laid on the shelf with many other ridiculous customs.

DRESS OF THE BRIDE

The dress of the bride should be devised according to her means—but it is imperative that it is white, and may be muslin, silk or satin, according to her means or taste. A veil may or may not be worn; one composed of tulle is more dainty in its effect than a lace one. But for a very fleshy bride lace will be best, as tulle has the quality of making one's proportions look larger. The orange blossom has always been adopted for ornamentation, and is very beautiful. But if these cannot be procured, other natural flowers can take their place. If jewelry is worn, it should be something very elegant and chaste.

LENGTH OF RECEPTION

The reception should be about two hours' duration. When the time of departure on the wedding journey draws near, the young couple quietly withdraw from the festivities without making any adieus. None but the most intimate friends remain to wish them bon voyage.

WEDDING GIFTS

The showing of the wedding gifts is left to the taste of the bride. She need no longer exhibit them on the day of the wedding, ticketed and labeled with the names of their givers, like dry goods in a shop window unless she so chooses. There are so many beautiful articles which can be fittingly sent as wedding gifts, that it is almost impossible to particularize. Among them are pictures, china, bric-a-brac, vases, clocks, statuary ornaments, jewelry, books, and even pieces of furniture. Formerly it was only thought proper to give silverware and jewelry, but common sense has come to the front in these days, and ostentatious display no longer prevails in good society.

The neatest way to give a wedding present, is to have it packed at the shop where it is purchased and sent directly to the bride with the

giver's card. She should immediately after the wedding acknowledge the same by a personal note in her own handwriting. No friend should hesitate to give some little token if they so choose because they cannot give an expensive present. It is often these little gifts prove more desirable than those representing money value.

MARRIAGE OF A WIDOW

When a widow remarries, her wedding costume should be of some light-colored silk if married at home, and she should omit the veil. Neither should she have brides-maids, but should be attended by her father, brother, or an elderly male relative. If the ceremony takes place in church, she should be dressed in a colored silk or cloth, and wear a bonnet. She should remove her first wedding-ring, out of deference to the feelings of the groom.

The refreshments at a wedding reception consist of salads, oysters, cold chicken, ices, coffee and confectionery. These may be served from a center table in the dining-room, the guests being seated against the wall and the refreshments passed.

Parents and friends who are in mourning should leave off their somber garments at the wedding. Of course they may be resumed after the bride's departure.

THE WEDDING TRIP

The wedding tour is no longer considered absolutely necessary. Many young couples who are going at once to housekeeping, do not take a trip, but proceed direct from the church to their future home, where the reception is held. In this case, the duties of the head usher are the same as at the reception, save that he is assisted in taking charge of the guests by the mother of the bride.

AVOID SHOW OF AFFECTION

If a tour is made, avoid any silly manifestations of affection in public. Observe a respectful reserve toward each other; thus you will not expose yourselves to ridicule by demonstrations of affection which should be kept for the sacred privacy of home.

CHANGING THE MIDDLE NAME

A bride may after her marriage drop her middle name, and adopt her maiden name in its place, as—Mrs. Nellie Winn Seymour, instead of Mrs. Nellie Maria Seymour. We think this a good fashion, as it helps to a knowledge of the family to which the bride belonged, ere her marriage, and saves confusion. Widows often retain the names of their first husbands, as Mrs. Belle Hopkins Gill.

WEDDING-CAKE AS A SOUVENIR

Wedding-cake is not sent out as formerly. In lieu of that it is piled up in tasty little boxes on a side-table at the reception, and each guest takes just one box.

WHAT A BRIDEGROOM MAY PAY FOR

Most bridegrooms would, from the fullness of their hearts, pay for everything connected with the coming event, but this would offend the delicacy of the bride and her friends. There is a law of etiquette concerning this, as all other matters. We therefore append a brief summing up of what he may pay for without trespassing upon those customs which have been observed from earliest times, and which fall within the province of the parents of the bride.

He should not fail to send the wedding bouquet to the bride, on the morning of the ceremony. He also should, if his means permit, present the bride with some article of jewelry.

He should pay the clergyman's fee (this is handed to the clergyman by the best man after the ceremony), consisting of any amount which the groom thinks proper; but never less than \$5.00, while \$20.00 is even modest. Bouquets to the brides-maids; scarf-pins, canes, sleeve buttons, or any other little remembrance which his ingenuity may suggest, to the groomsmen.

WHAT THE PARENTS PAY FOR

"The groom should on no account pay for the cards, the carriages, nor the entertainment, nor anything connected with the wedding.

"The reason for this is, that an engagement may be broken even after the cards are out, and it would then remain for the parents of the bride to either repay the outlay, or stand in the position of being indebted to the discarded son-in-law.

"In addition to other details, the parents of the bride should pay for the cards sent out after marriage. These are generally ordered with the announcement cards."

STYLE OF WEDDING-CARDS

Fashions in wedding-cards are constantly changing. Any good stationer is provided with the newest and most approved styles. The fantastically ornamented cards of a few years ago are happily supplanted by plainer and less showy ones. They should be of a fine quality, yet of heavy board, and engraved in script.

WHEN NOT TO CALL UPON A BRIDE

If you do not receive a wedding-card, do not call upon a newly married couple. There is a sort of a tacit understanding that only those receive them whose acquaintance they wish to retain.

HOME WEDDINGS

Home weddings are much simpler than church weddings, and can be made very beautiful. An arch of flowers may be placed in the parlor, under which the young couple stand, with the clergyman before them. The bridal party enters, as in church, and after having been pronounced man and wife, they turn and face their guests, receiving their congratulations.

The recipients of invitations at the church ceremony, call or leave cards within a month after the wedding, while those invited to the reception call within ten days after the wedding upon the parents.

A PRIVATE WEDDING

If the wedding is strictly private the bride's parents usually send the following card during the absence of the pair upon their bridal tour:

MR. AND MRS. JOHN DEAN HOWARD
announce the marriage of their daughter
LUCIE
to
JOSEPH FRENCH BRYANT,
Thursday, October 30,
1899.

NOTES OF CONGRATULATION

All who receive such cards should send notes of congratulation to the parents, and also to the bride and groom, when intimate friendship warrants it.

THE RETURN FROM THE BRIDAL TOUR

The newly married pair receive in their new home on their return. It is now a pretty custom to have the announcements of such reception days with the wedding-cards, and merely state the fact thus:

Tuesdays in November.
22 Anderson St.

If these receptions are to be held in the evening this should be stated also, as—

Tuesday evenings in November.

It is very common for the bride's parents to give the young couple a reception upon their return; this is followed by one given them by the parents of the groom. At these receptions, the bride wears dark silk, as rich and elegant as her means permit, but without bridal ornaments. If she wishes, she can wear her wedding-dress at parties or formal dinners, but the veil and flowers are worn no more.

A BRIDE'S OUTFIT

The bride's outfit should be selected with special reference to the position in life she expects to hold, and the income of the future husband. Rich and extravagant dressing is in bad taste under any circumstances. Neither should she purchase an immense stock of clothes, to lay and grow yellow. It looks as though she never expected the man

she marries to give her a cent. If she has an enormous sum furnished her by her father, she may lay part of it by, to replenish with as she needs it. Buy only enough for a journey and a year's wear.

MARKING GIFTS

All plate or other gifts which are to be marked should bear the initials of the bride, or her monogram. This is her own personal property, and she may bequeath it at her death to whomsoever she chooses.

A HINT TO THE FUTURE HUSBAND

Don't haunt the house of your loved one for a few days previous to the wedding. There are many matters to be attended to, requiring her counseling with her elders, and long interviews tire and annoy her. Besides, a loving daughter naturally desires to be with the mother for the few days left her. She is none the less loyal to you for this affection for her mother, and you will be none the loser for your forbearance.

CORDIALITY

The young husband in meeting the wife's acquaintances or the newly wedded wife in meeting the husband's acquaintances should break all formality and reserve and cultivate a cordiality, even though they may not feel it in particular cases. To master the shortcomings of our natures is not deception, and while it may at first appear like it, yet in the end we find that the effort leads us to like rather than dislike the person to whom we have felt a prejudice.

CARRY ENTERTAINMENT WITH US

Wherever we go, whether among the husband's friends or elsewhere, we should endeavor to carry entertainment with us. A cordial manner invariably pleases better than brilliancy even. Emerson says that "fashion is good sense entertaining company; it hates corners and sharp points of character, hates quarrelsome, egotistical, solitary

and gloomy people, hates whatever can interfere with total blending of parties, while it values all particularities as in the highest degree refreshing which can consist with good-fellowship." While fine manner is often a gift of nature, yet it can also be cultivated. How beautiful to see a person enter a room and make himself charming to everyone in it. Is it any wonder that such a person falls like magic into the arms and hearts of the new made relatives?







AN APPROPRIATE DINNER
DRESS. HAT TO BE RE-
MOVED IF THE DINNER IS A
PRIVATE ONE.



THE HOSTESS ATTIRE
FOR A FORMAL RECEPTION
OR EVENING PARTY.

DRESS—Its attractiveness and appropriateness
(SEE PAGE 215)

CHAPTER XXIX.

ANNIVERSARIES, AND HOW TO CELEBRATE THEM

*“Were my whole life to come one heap of troubles,
The pleasure of this moment would suffice
To sweeten all my griefs with its remembrance.”*

—LEE.

THE object of an anniversary is to bring back scenes which were occasions of joy, and to renew occasions which thrill us with recollections of a time long past. There are many happy anniversaries which loving hearts commemorate—the birth of a child; the hour which marks some crisis in its life; the happy day when two lives flowed into one. There are also sad anniversaries when memory gives up her treasures, enabling us to live over the mournful hours when a dear one said good-bye. These we do not celebrate outwardly; they are held in our hearts, sacred and precious forever.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

The wedding anniversary meets with most favor, and is observed more universally than any other. It is the event which brought most happiness, and which never loses its beauty and romance for those who started out, properly mated, in life together.

The wedding anniversary is made more pleasant, too, on account of the social reunion of old friends and relatives.

AN ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE

Many couples observe the annual return of their wedding day in the quiet of their own homes, with a few select friends, or make an excursion, and have an “outing.” Or the husband and wife exchange gifts, enjoying the day among the dear ones of the household. It is a beautiful custom on the part of the children to remember the recurrence of the day by the presentation of flowers, or some simple piece of their handiwork.

Social usage has decreed that the wedding anniversary be dis-

tinctively named, and publicly celebrated. On these occasions, if the wife has kept intact her bridal dress, she wears it, and conforms in every respect to the fashion of the original wedding. It is uncommon, but we read of an anniversary of the twenty-fifth year of married life where the original brides-maids, groomsmen and clergymen were present and took part in the festivities. Such a chance for a rehearsal of the greatest event in life is exceedingly rare.

The bride and groom stand and receive their guests.

SERVING THE SUPPER

At supper the guests may all be seated at a table, or the viands may be passed round on salvers, or at small tables throughout the parlors. If the first style is adopted, the couple whose wedding day is being celebrated, occupy the position of honor, and the bride cuts the wedding cake just as she did twenty-five years before. Speeches are made, healths drank, and a royal good time is enjoyed.

DANCING

If there is dancing, the bridal couple has the pleasure of leading off the first set. In case the bride does not wish to wear the original wedding dress, she may wear a light colored silk—something pretty and simple. If she has attained to twenty or more years of marriage, cinnamon brown or silver gray is becoming.

The original wedding ceremony is sometimes repeated at these anniversaries, but we question the taste. Marriage is too solemn a rite to rehash.

MAKING PRESENTS

These occasions have one drawback which forces them to fall into disuse; and that is the supposition that it is obligatory upon the guests to make presents. This is not necessary or expected. Especially is it discouraged in the older celebrations, such as the "silver" and "gold" and "diamond" weddings, where none but the closest friends and kindred bestow gifts on the husband and wife.

At the same time, if inclination and means prompt the bestowal

of gifts, it is perfectly proper. But they must be in keeping with the character of the anniversary.

"NO PRESENTS RECEIVED"

The invitations to these weddings, when presents are not desired, bear the words, "No presents." Others do not allow the invitation to express the nature of the gathering, but make it a pleasant surprise by announcing after the guests are assembled, that it is a wedding anniversary.

THE PAPER WEDDING

The first celebration is known as the paper wedding, and is held at the end of the first year of wedded life. Suitable gifts are easily procured, since there are so many beautiful things in paper, as dainty boxes of stationery, books, artificial flowers, fans, glove-holders, pictures, etchings, bookmarks, etc., all of which are acceptable.

THE COTTON WEDDING

This marks the second anniversary. The invitations may be printed on fine white muslin or delicate figured calico. The gifts attending it will readily suggest themselves.

THE LEATHER WEDDING

This, the third anniversary, we hear very little about, probably owing to the difficulty of selecting presents. The leather satchels, trunks, paper folders, desks, slipper cases, perpetual calendars, portfolios, music rolls, dining chairs, etc., would seem to afford a wide latitude in articles of this material.

THE WOODEN WEDDING

This, the fifth anniversary, is the signal for a general frolic. Anything may be sent from a wooden nutmeg and a saw horse to a sofa or piano. The invitations are sometimes sent on birch bark. Quaint little fancies in carved wood, as brackets, wall pockets, easels, footstools, piano stools (their coverings being plush, or velvet or satin worked in

with floss or wool), are nice offerings; also powder or hairpin boxes, thimble cases, comb cases, of handsome painted or the natural wood. A Swiss cuckoo clock is a very elegant offering. Japanese woodwork is ever in fashion.

THE TIN WEDDING

This is a reminder that ten years of alternate sunshine and shade have rolled on. A happy time of merry-making is had, and fun reigns triumphant. Invitations on tin are sometimes issued, but they are clumsy, and a firm, strong paper is preferable. The presents on this occasion partake of the comical and useful, from a tin whistle to a wash boiler, and belong to the kitchen rather than the parlor. They may be as ridiculous and useless as possible.

THE CRYSTAL WEDDING

This marks the fifteenth anniversary. An elaborate entertainment may be provided, and handsome glassware is brought by the guests. The articles in order here are countless. Epergnes, berry dishes, bonbon dishes, ice cream sets, lamps, mirrors, goblets, wine glasses, finger bowls, vases, bouquet holders, cake dishes, pickle jars, celery boats, cigar jars, all are useful. For the bride's dressing room, vinaigrettes, hand mirrors, ivory brushes with mirror backs, toilet bottles, and bottles of perfume are all included in the "crystal" part of the event.

THE CHINA WEDDING

A wedding which takes place on the twentieth anniversary has a flavor of solidity, and the presents are in keeping. Sets of china dishes, porcelain ornaments, bisque figures, plaques hand-painted, are very elegant. There is a division of opinion upon the title of this anniversary, some calling it the "floral" wedding. If the latter is preferred, the gifts must be flowers in every form, transforming the house into a bower of beauty. This wedding is seldom celebrated, the Scotch particularly believing that it is very unlucky to observe it, and that either husband or wife will die within the year if any notice is taken of it.

THE SILVER WEDDING

A couple who have lived happily together for twenty-five years are entitled to consideration in these days of loose and irreverent treatment of the marriage tie. This wedding is of importance, and the celebration is in corresponding good taste. The husband and wife are not old—they are still young enough to enjoy heartily the attending ceremonies. Flowers, music and brilliant-lighting are necessary accessories. The invitations should be in silver letters on fine white paper. This is the form:

1875.

MR. AND MRS. HOWARD
request the pleasure of your presence
on Thursday, December Twenty-second,
at eight o'clock.
SILVER WEDDING.

1900.

John Howard.

Matilda Town.

The names at the end can be omitted. Another form, which some prefer, is as follows:

MR. AND MRS. CYRUS GREGORY
request the pleasure of your company
on Monday evening, March 31, at eight o'clock
to celebrate the
twenty-fifth anniversary of their marriage.
No gifts received. No. 4131 Forest Avenue

We prefer the first form, as more clearly indicating the occasion that calls it forth.

When presents are made they must naturally be costly, consisting of silverware candelabras, card cases, purses, silver ornaments, silver headed canes, silk umbrellas richly ornamented, silver for the table, for the toilet, and all purposes. Silver coins have been given, but this is not in correct taste.

Those who wish to spare their friends the necessity of bringing a gift which their means would forbid, use the latter form of invitation, while others use the first one, and inclose a small card with the words, "It is preferred that no presents be offered."

An effort is made to have as many of the very old friends present as possible. The supper is supposed to be very elaborate. When the wedding cake is brought on with a ring inclosed, the bride cuts it, and it is claimed that the unmarried lady to whom this slice falls will be a bride within a year.

THE GOLDEN WEDDING

This is an anniversary vouchsafed to but few. Fifty years together!—a half century of varied experiences. Great are the rejoicings, and many the kind wishes of those who partake of this glad occasion. The preparations are even more extensive than for the silver wedding. The form of invitation is the same, save that they are printed in gold letters, and the words thereon are, "Golden Wedding." The presents are of that precious metal, and the reader needs no assistance in selecting them.

THE DIAMOND WEDDING

But if the wedded pair who have lived together fifty years awaken our admiration, what shall we say of those who journey together for seventy-five years? This is very rare. And when the anniversary is observed, the gifts must be precious stones and valuable. At this, as the gold and silver weddings, the request is generally made that no presents be brought.

Some authorities assert that this is the sixtieth anniversary in the place of the seventy-fifth, and it seems more probable. Old age can be made very lovely, and the pair who have passed sixty years in each other's company are honored pilgrims in the pathway of life.

There are other anniversaries, to which we will briefly allude, but which are seldom observed.

The seventh, or woolen anniversary; the twelfth, silk and fine linen; the thirtieth, pearl wedding; the thirty-fifth, coral; fortieth, ruby; forty-fifth, bronze; sixty-fifth, or crown wedding. Each of these suggests the offerings to be made.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

For the ready reference of our readers, we append the full list of these important affairs, in the order in which they occur:

First Anniversary.....	Paper Wedding.
Second "	Cotton "
Third "	Leather "
Fifth "	Wooden "
Seventh "	Woolen "
Tenth "	Tin "
Twelfth "	Silk and Linen Wedding.



Fifteenth Anniversary.....	Crystal (sometimes Iron).
Twentieth "	China (sometimes Floral).
Twenty-fifth	Silver Wedding.
Thirtieth "	Pearl "
Thirty-fifth "	Coral "
Fortieth "	Ruby "

Forty-fifth Anniversary	Bronze Wedding.
Fiftieth "	Golden "
Sixty-fifth "	Crown "
Seventy-fifth	Diamond "

The wedding ring is of Roman origin, and was given by the bridegroom to the bride as a pledge of their engagement. In Juvenal we read that a man always placed a ring on the finger of the lady to whom he was betrothed. Kings and other dignitaries gave rings as pledges of good faith, and much importance was attached to them as a means of identification or as pledges of promises made. Then, as now, the ring was placed upon the woman's left hand, and so universal is this custom among both Jews and Christians that the plain gold circlet worn has become the outward symbol of marriage, and with many it is still considered a bad omen to remove it after it has been placed on the hand at the altar.

There are many other anniversaries, among them those marking the birthdays of the little ones. The early Puritans would not permit them to be noticed, classing them among the other sinful indulgences forbidden by their austere religion. They are kept generally in these days, and are green spots in their lives.

CHAPTER XXX.

TRAVELING—HOME AND ABROAD

"If men wish to be held in esteem, they must associate with those only who are estimable."



THERE is no situation in life where the innate selfishness of human nature will manifest itself as in traveling. It is so easy to be just a little rude or selfish, and so natural to flatter one's self that not one of your dear five hundred friends will know it, forgetting that in these days of rapid transit the doings and sayings of people become common property in a very short time; while the little acts of selfishness or the generous sacrifice of to-day, in a far-off land, may be flashed across the world ere to-morrow's sun arises.

Would that all could remember this, and when undertaking a journey, whether of long or short duration, take a vast stock of patience and politeness with them, lest the supply fail when most needed.

Travel broadens the mind, and takes us from out our little, narrow sphere into the wide expanse of the world at large. It teaches many things of value. New scenes, new people, are brought to our very doors, and the in-

terchange of thought gives food for reflection, adding polish and grace to our daily lives.

ON THE CONTINENT

The tourist in a foreign land needs to be especially careful not to offend the peculiar manners and customs of the country which he visits, and not to air his opinions to every stranger. Nearly every one is apt to be less cautious about his behavior abroad than at home. If all could only feel that they are accepted as representatives of their native land, they would guard its good name more tenderly, by acting under all circumstances as ladies and gentlemen.

There is a marked contrast between the rush and scramble of Americans when traveling and their ease of manner when at home. Why should this be?

CHIVALROUS MEN

American gentlemen are the most chivalrous of men. Early training, the deference accorded women, the influence of good homes, have helped to make them so, and yet to see them as we have, pushing and jostling ladies at the ticket office of a railway station, or the entrance to a theater—or taking all the seats in a car, and allowing ladies to stand, would impress a stranger with a very great doubt of that chivalry of which we like to boast.

There must be some demoralizing influence in a railway train, for there one continually sees exhibitions of rudeness.

There is a pleasant side to this, however, and that is found in the fact that, no matter if the gentlemen are a little rude in their eager quest for a place, a lady who acts with propriety can journey from one end of our country to the other with safety. Women are held in high esteem, and are certain of protection.

AN ESCORT IN TRAVELING

It is always desirable for a lady to have an escort when traveling, for there are many little anxieties which a gentleman can assume, thus making a lady's journey more enjoyable.

The first office of such escort is to either accompany his charge to the depot, or meet her there in ample time to obtain her tickets, check her baggage, and procure a good seat in the car for her.

He looks after her hand baggage, assists her in and out of the car, makes all inquiries about the route, brings her a glass of water when she wishes it, and performs many acts of politeness which readily suggest themselves to a kindly disposed, well-bred gentleman.

After making the lady as comfortable as possible, he makes himself agreeable to her by pointing out the objects of interest from the car window; or if she is disinclined for conversation, he lets her relapse into thought, or provides her with reading matter. We do not think it is well to read on the cars, owing to the motion, still many make a practice of doing so, without receiving any apparent injury to their sight. It is very discourteous for the gentleman to read, unless the lady is engaged in the same manner.

At the termination of the journey he sees to obtaining a carriage for her, and looks after her baggage. He may accompany her to the home of her friends, or to the hotel at which she is to stop. The next day he calls on her to inquire how she bore the fatigue of her journey. His duties as escort are then ended.

PROPRIETY OF AN ESCORT

No gentleman should be asked to take care of a lady in traveling unless he is known to her friends as a man in good standing, and worthy of the trust. And no parent or guardian should invite a total stranger on whom he has no claims to take charge of a lady, merely because he happens to be traveling in the same direction.

A lady should not concern herself with any of the details of her trip, when she has an escort. It is presumed that he knows more about traveling than she does, and it will annoy him to be continually asked about the safety of baggage, whether they are on the right train, and numberless other fussy questions that would scarcely be excusable in children.

FUNDS FOR A TRIP

Some prefer to have the gentleman settle the entire account at the end of the journey. A strict record of all the items should be kept in this case, and the lady or her relatives should supply the escort with sufficient money to defray these expenses, so he will not be obliged to draw on his own funds.

Ladies should not have a myriad of packages for an escort to guard. We have often envied the man who said that he could put his wardrobe in a collar box—what a world of trouble he saved himself! Some ladies (of course not many) think a Saratoga trunk not large enough to hold all their possessions, but they are burdened with one or two hand satchels, a shawl, various small parcels, a lunch-basket, and finish up with a bird cage! Fancy the feelings of a gentleman who is expected to take charge of a lady with all these appendages.

When a lady travels alone she should be at the depot early enough to purchase her ticket and to make any inquiries of the ticket agent respecting the route. She should never permit a stranger to purchase her ticket or check her trunk. There are proper persons provided by the company for those services.

AVOID DISPLAY IN TRAVELING

Be sure to carry more money than you expect to require, but do not display it to strangers. Depots are full of adventurers and sharpers, waiting to "entrap the unwary." We know a gentleman who, when traveling, always divided his money with his wife, she carrying half, and he the other half, his reason being that if he were robbed, or by any accident they were separated on their journey, neither would be left unprovided for.

Jewelry should not be worn in traveling; and do not consult your watch every few moments.

WHOM TO ADDRESS

If you desire any information, apply to the conductor. He is the one

best able to give you any directions. At the same time, a lady will not refuse any offer of assistance, such as raising or lowering a window, changing seats, to avoid a draught, calling a carriage, etc. Gentlemen understand perfectly well how to offer such services without presuming upon their acceptance to force an acquaintance.

A lady may make herself agreeable to her fellow-passengers if the journey be long, without being misconstrued. But an acquaintance begun on a railway train should end there. Young ladies should be cautious and reserved with young men.

When a coat or valise is left on a seat, it is understood that it has been reserved for the owner, and no lady or gentleman will remove such articles and take possession of the seat. If the car is full, it is proper to take any seat that is vacant, even by the side of a gentleman, first inquiring if the seat is reserved.

COURTESIES IN TRAVELING

As soon as seated, don't throw the window up without asking permission. The one who sits behind you will suffer from the draught more than the occupant of the seat by your side.

Gentlemen, don't expectorate tobacco-juice on the floor, for the skirts of the lady who may be sitting near you to wipe up. Nor shell nuts and peel oranges, making a litter. Would you be guilty of such rudeness in a parlor? A pleasant little incident occurred on a train which proved the truth of the value of early training. A little boy of six was in the car with his parents, and was given an orange. He peeled it, and looked anxiously around for a receptacle for the skin. "Oh, throw it under your seat," the father said, carelessly. "But, papa, I mustn't throw things on the floor," he answered. He recognized the fact that the same good manners should be practiced abroad as at home. His father quietly opened the window and threw out the refuse.

RIGHTS OF ELDERLY LADIES

Elderly ladies, who are accustomed to traveling, should deem it a privilege to exercise a supervision over younger and more inexperienced ladies, thus throwing a mantle of protection around them, and also

relieving their loneliness. Ladies should always be friendly and helpful to each other.

DON'T BE SELFISH

No passenger has a right to occupy two seats with his personal property, unless there is abundance of room; and we feel that anyone is almost justified in taking by force what common politeness on the part of another should freely accord him.

When you lay aside your wraps in the car, resume them just before the car stops at your station. It is rather undignified to make your toilet and exit at one and the same time.

If you are in a sleeping car don't stay in the dressing-room so long that every other lady is debarred from the same privilege. Be as quick in making your toilet as possible, or you will appear very selfish.

CARE FOR YOUR VALUABLES

Intrust your valuables to the porter for safe-keeping. He usually receives a small fee for the service, but you are not compelled to offer him one. The company employs him for the accommodation of the traveling public.

A gentleman should not leave his coat or handbag in a seat and then spend his time in the smoking car. A lady may be standing to whom the seat would be very acceptable.

DO NOT JOSTLE

When you leave the car at a station for a meal, do not jostle and scramble for the best place, and clamor to be served at once. There is usually time allotted for eating in a self-possessed and gentlemanly way.

If you leave an umbrella or any other article in a car, apply at the office of the company; they will assist you in tracing it.

Never leave a train till it has fully stopped. Many serious accidents have been caused by too great haste.

WHO SHALL PAY FARE

It is laughable to hear two ladies in a street car disputing as to who

shall pay the fare. "I'll pay this time." "Now, you shall not—it's my turn." "No, I have the change!" And thus they argue, pocket-books in hand, while the conductor and passengers are inwardly smiling. If your friend offers to pay your fare, consent to her doing so. You will probably have an opportunity to return the favor. If you design paying for both, the polite way is to have the exact change ready, passing it to the conductor without any reference to it, and in as modest a way as possible.

LEAVING THE CAR

When the train has reached its destination, do not rush wildly out, pushing your fellow passengers out of the way. It is both selfish and ill-bred; besides, this gives the other passengers the impression that you are unfamiliar with traveling. Be prompt to assist a young child or an aged person from the car.

TRAVEL AT NIGHT

A lady should try and arrange her trip, when without an escort, so that she will not be compelled to change cars in the night. If she has to do so, she should place herself under the care of the conductor, or some married couple, until the transfer is made. The reasons are obvious. There are always "wolves in sheep's clothing" who stand ready to direct her wrong, particularly in large cities.

If she arrives in the place where she is to stop at night, and her friends have failed to meet her, or are unaware of her coming, she had better take a cab or, what is better, a 'bus or street-car, where there are plenty of people in attendance.

PRESENCE OF MIND

Always maintain presence of mind under all circumstances. Do not become excited at any emergency, but keep your wits about you. There are always good people who will advise and assist you.

If these simple rules are observed, any lady may take a journey unattended, without an unpleasant incident. A quiet, lady-like manner will command respect. Occasionally a rough, impertinent fellow may

be encountered, who will annoy one, but if a dignified reserve does not check his advances, one will always find defenders who will teach him his place.

STEAMER ACQUAINTANCES

On a steamer where people are thrown together for days, many pleasant acquaintances spring into existence, and some warm friendships which have stood the test of time have been formed.

But even here, where much freedom is allowed, it is conceded that a certain degree of reserve should be observed on the part of a lady, and that no familiarity should be permitted; also that an acquaintance formed on board a ship need not proceed further than the place which gave it countenance.

Good-breeding forbids that one monopolize the steamer piano or do all the talking in the ladies' cabin.

Pay some regard to the comfort of those who retire earlier than yourself. Politeness which springs from a kind heart is opposed to boisterous laughter and loud talking.

TABLE ETIQUETTE ON BOARD STEAMER

At the table do not eat hastily and greedily. It is not only ill-mannered, but is not a healthy practice. Time is ample here, and you have not the excuse of a hastily-eaten meal at a railway station. Besides, the hundred or more pairs of eyes that are observing you will comment unfavorably.

Never allude to sea-sickness at the table. Most every one is squeamish on the water, and any allusion of this sort is in bad taste.

Remember here, as elsewhere, to avoid giving offense, and regard the rights of all.

Hold yourself ready to pass anything should occasion require.

LADIES' DRESS IN TRAVELING

The most appropriate dress for a lady traveling is some warm, dark, soft material that shows little dust. A neat hat with a veil (the latter to protect the eyes from cinders) and a jacket, a small satchel with an



OUT FOR PLEASURE



THE END OF THE WORLD

extra waist for comfort, and toilet articles are quite essential. If one takes a sleeping car, add a loose gown of dark silk or wool, one which will not attract attention when leaving the berth for the dressing-room. Dark gloves should be worn, and moderately stout boots to protect the feet from the changes of weather.

GENTLEMEN'S DRESS IN TRAVELING

A gentleman should dress modestly and avoid display. A dark or light-colored wool suit, linen shirt, overcoat, soft felt or Derby hat, gloves and an umbrella are the essentials. His traveling case should contain plenty of clean linen, socks, toilet articles, etc.

The trunk should always be marked plainly with the owner's initials and address.

A gentleman will never quarrel with the employes of the road, no matter how annoying their conduct may be.

COURTESY UPON LEAVING A HOTEL

Notice should be given at the desk of the hotel a few hours previous to one's departure for some other point. This will enable the clerk to have bill ready, baggage brought to the door and such other matters attended to as may be necessary. It is quite the polite thing to say a few pleasant words of farewell to the proprietor or clerk as the case may warrant, thus leaving with him a good impression and a desire that you come again.

MISCELLANEOUS HINTS IN TRAVELING

He must remember that an ordinary acquaintance ends with the day's journey.

He can offer his paper to one sitting in the same seat with himself.

He will behave at a hotel table in precisely the same quiet fashion that he would at a friend's house, or his own home.

He must be cautious how loudly he talks and not recount his family history in his sleeping berth, or room in a hotel, for the partitions and walls of such places are proverbially thin.

Be very urbane with foreign officials when traveling abroad, for they have a different way of dealing with people from that in this country. And don't flaunt the American flag in the face of the people of foreign countries.



ABROAD.