

They have long since come to the conclusion that for this world at least, "honesty is *not* the best policy."

Falshoods may be uttered, or wrong and misleading impressions made in very many ways. For instance, you urge people to visit you, who, you hope in your heart will never come; and if they do you pretend to be highly pleased, when in fact you are inwardly annoyed. You smile and chat pleasantly, to amuse and entertain your visitors, and when they rise to go urge them to stay for tea, but feel greatly relieved when they decline to accept your invitation. Deception is often practiced by merely *holding back* the truth, especially in business transactions. Or we may act a lie; for example, by our dress—making people believe we are more wealthy than is really the case: just as we falsely plead poverty at the sight of a subscription list.

There are people who by their talk and gushing expressions would have us believe they are highly educated, and that what they do not know is scarcely worth knowing, while their heads may be as empty as a bell without its clapper; and we have seen some with the clapper attached. Now, there can be nothing wrong in adhering to the motto, "put the best on the outside," but would it not be poor policy for a shopkeeper to place his entire stock in the front window. We should always aim to appear at the very best advantage, but never to seem what we are not; nor does it pay, for most people have sharp eyes and keen perceptions, and can easily distinguish between gold and gilt. In society, and in our dealings with each other, "truth" should be stamped on all our words and actions. Some people run to the opposite extreme—they are rude in action and plain in speech when there is no necessity for it. We all know there are times when the truth is far better kept than made known; but these extremists take pride in the rudeness of their manners, the uncouthness of their dress, and the plainness of their speech. The *poor policy* is that they will insult you upon the slightest pretext, and speak in a rough and most *unkind* manner. But let it be remembered that bluntness is not candour, and bad manners are no evidence of a man's honesty.

We by nature possess a base spirit, which often suppresses the truth when conscience says, "Speak out and be a man." On account of this spirit, people in all grades of society are tempted to act the part of the dissembler. Christian men and women, especially, who aim to be honest and straightforward, engage almost daily in the struggle which "telling the truth" so often renders necessary, and many realize that to always speak and act

the truth is one of the severest tests of Christian character.

Long since it was said, "A fool and his money are soon parted," and in these days of trickery and deception it requires a man with a wise and level head to get the worth of his money every time he makes a bargain. Some men boldly maintain that to tell the truth in business matters would be the highway to ruin. We admit that it would be the ruin of all dishonest trades and practices, but it would build up and strengthen the honest and upright. If you wish to sell or trade a horse, and that horse is "breechy," you should not hesitate to explain why you keep him tied up in the stable when not at work; or if he be past the prime of life, why you feed him on boiled grain; or if he is "balky," say plainly that at times the animal needs a little extra persuasion. All this is not easy to do. Some one has said; "If a preacher can put up mismatched stovepipes without swearing, he is well seasoned;" so we think that a man who can get rid of a horse or an old watch without using a little deception deserves our praise and respect.

Adhering to the truth is honorable, and if it demands some sacrifice let us not shrink or complain. We admit that it may be very inconvenient at times, but we should bear with that inconvenience; and it may often be a loss, but we should willingly endure that loss. For the sake of truth men have suffered every kind of hardship. The noble martyrs of the past cheerfully bore the loss of all things, and sealed their testimony with their own blood; and however unwilling we would be to imitate their example, we feel they acted wisely and well. Their names, crowned with glory and honor, are handed down from generation to generation, and their memory will never die.

Oxford University authorities are thinking of abolishing the wearing of gowns on the streets.—*Badger.*

Boston University has lately established sixty-four scholarships of \$100 each, in the College of Liberal Arts, to be awarded to meritorious students, and to be divided equally between the young women and the young men.—*Roanoke Collegian.*

Harvard has about sixteen hundred students. Ann Arbor comes next with fifteen hundred and thirty-four.

Ohio has the same number of universities as France and Germany together.

Women are now admitted to the Universities of Germany.

Thirty per cent. of the students of Colleges are sceptics—says the Dartmouth.