

Poetry.

All is Vanity

What is life? Put a bubble
What is fame? But a bubble
What is youth? A passing day
That soon grows dark

The Church

They bow to the east, both people and priest,
Silks rattle on the floor,
While altar boys kneel,
Brief sermons, long prayers,
Rich flowers, great airs.

Times

Good times, and bad times, and all times pass
Then cheerily bend to the oar,
Through depth and through shallow, through calm
and through tempest.

True Temperance Reform.

The philanthropist who relies on the machinery of laws to grand out beneficent results, without continual and energetic co-operation, will be miserably disappointed.

Forgetfulness of this simple truth has been the cause of immense mischief in the matter of temperance reform.

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True Politeness.

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He whose pulse beats in time with the great pulse of humanity, who feels that "every human heart is human," bears about within him the very elemental soil from which true courtesy spontaneously springs.

In a great many neighborhoods there is found a certain class that pride themselves on their blood, or their correctness of deportment, or their discrimination of character, and think the best way of asserting themselves is to pass those socially beneath them without recognition.

in little things." From the very nature of this definition it appears that his benevolence in little things can only come from a large, a universal benevolence of heart from which all smaller streams flow as rivulets from a common fountain.

Don't Stay too Late.

One of the advantages of being "past thirty" is that one now and then can put in a word of good, unobtrusive advice to the other sex.

It won't hurt you to be longed for after you are gone; but beware of ever causing a girl to give a sigh of relief when the hall door closes after you.

I know all about it. I've received young gentlemen visitors in my day; yes and enjoyed receiving them, if ever a girl did; I'd think all day that perhaps John, for instance, might come, in the evening; and on these occasions I've come down to tea with a rosebud in my hair, and a happy flutter in my heart.

Therefore, I have learned to honour those who knew it was time to go when half-past ten came; while those who didn't know it were the bane of my existence.

Don't go too late, and don't go by inches. "Good-by" is the flower of a welcome.

The Mystery of Affliction

Minot J. Savage, of Boston, in a recent address on the Mystery of Affliction, said: "As often happens in our day, a family becomes divided, a part of it staying in Germany or England, and a part of it having come over here."

"SWISS CHURCH-GOERS."—We read in the School Board Chronicle:—On the plea that "the one small minister church in the city of Schaffhausen is perfectly capable of accommodating all the Swiss church-goers, even on high festivals,"

It is understood that the British Treasury will make a grant to enable Mr. George Smith to continue his explorations in Assyria.

Envy.

Envy is one of the most despicable of passions. There is scarcely a crime to which it will not lead its victims. It was envy that robbed Naboth of his vineyard, and added murder to the theft.

But if the indulgence of envy does no good, it is calculated to do other people much harm. Envy punishes itself by immolation in some way. Evil emotion turns to action, and becomes embodied in ignoble deeds.

That the envious pay the penalty in their own misery does not mitigate the wrong they do to others. It does help, indeed, to vindicate the ways of God to man, as it shows us the divine hand dispensing, even in this world, to each man according to his sin.

The Cramming Process.

Perhaps nothing in our present system of education is so demoralizing and unjust as the custom of public examinations. In them interest and vanity play into each other's hands; genuine acquirement and principle "go to the wall."

The Weak Spot.

The weak spot in religion to-day is not seen in the fact that men are heretically intellectual, not that men hold notions different from those our fathers held. No, this is not it. The weakness of religion to-day is seen in this: that it does not prevent its disciples from cheating and lying; does not prevent them abusing, and plundering, and fighting each other; does not prevent them from running in debt, when they know they cannot pay their indebtedness; does not prevent them from being mean, and tricky, and cunning, bitter, bigoted, and cruel; these are the great blameworthy and luminous facts that stand over against our churches, and cast their light into the faces of those who ascend and descend the steps of the sanctuary, and the watchful, laughing, cynical world notices that as the light falls on the dreams that come and go, a quarter of the faces are ghastly.

WILD MEN.—According to the Academy, Mr. Bond, a surveyor in the Madras Presidency, has managed to catch a couple of the wild folk who live in the hill jungles of the Western Ghats.

The acquisition by Russia of the whole island of Saghalien, only the northern portion of which was previously held by her, marks another not unimportant stage in the advance the Northern Colossus is making towards predominant rule in Asia.

Scientific and Useful.

OLD ORCHARDS.

The common prescription for regenerating an old orchard is plowing and a liberal use of manure. Having watched this practice in several instances, without ever failing to produce one or two good crops of apples, it is followed by a rapid decay of the orchards, from the ripping and breaking of many roots, inducing the formation of fruit buds, but ruining the general health of the trees.

SENDING WITH PLASTER.

If you have a crack in the wall in the corner of the room, or anywhere else—do not send for the plasterer, but cut five or ten cents' worth of dry plaster of Paris; wet with cold water; then take your finger and rub it into the crevice till it is smooth.

HOW TO COOK OATMEAL.

First, be sure to get new, fresh oatmeal, as if it becomes damp or old it is bitter. Put one quart of water into a tinued stew pan, salt sufficient to be palatable; stir carefully, so as not to have it lumpy, three or four handfuls of oatmeal. Put it over the fire and stir continually until it has swollen all it will, using care not to have it burn on the bottom.

ADVICE TO DYSPEPTICS.

Take a piece of unslaked lime as large as a goose egg, put in a stone pot, pour two quarts cold water upon it, stir well, and then let it stand a few minutes, then stir well again; let it stand until clear, pour off and bottle tightly—remember this. Take one swallow after eating. If it does no good it will do no hurt, which cannot be said of many things recommended.

HISTORY OF THE PANSY.

The progress of the heartsease or pansy as a cultivated flower is a remarkable instance of what perseverance will do in floriculture. Although for a long time a favorite in gardens, under various names, the pansy has been only for a comparatively small number of years considered a florist's flower.

HOW TO OBTAIN CHOICE BUTTER.

We present the following brief summary of the leading or more essential requisites for the production of good butter: I. Securing rich, clean, healthy milk—milk obtained from good cows, well cared for, kindly treated, grazed upon sweet and nutritious pasturage free of weeds, and provided with an abundance of clean, fresh water.