

THE FAMILY CIRCLE

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RESPONSES TO READERS.

SUBSCRIBER—We send single copies of the *FAMILY CIRCLE* to any address on receipt of five cents in stamps. Back numbers from July 1881 are on hand.

L. K.—As to who is the best English novelist is a matter of opinion, George Eliot and Dickens seem to have the most admirers. Probably George Eliot is the greater writer. Thackeray holds a high position, and Fielding, though not now much read is a novelist of the first rank.

CONSTANT READER.—1. The best work to instruct you in bee keeping is "Quinby's New Bee Keeping," published by Orange Judd Company, New York. The "Canadian Bee Keeper's Guide," a smaller book (25 cts) is also good. Published by, J. H. Thomas, Brooklyn Ont. 2. For "Ingersoll Unmasked," address Clark Bradden, publisher, No. 315 East 65th Street, New York.

M. W.—There is nothing lady-like in turning the cold shoulder to anyone, and such conduct hurts the performers more than the person they intend to snub. The enjoyment of life is greatly lessened to those who think that they are superior to the rest of mankind; but it is equally as grave a fault to consider there is any person superior to yourself. 2. Following no rules of etiquette may enable a young lady to make more friends, or to be more happy; but easy, graceful, unaffected manners, the outgrowth of a knowledge of self-importance, and the equal importance of others is the manner of purely developed womanhood.

ELLEY M.—1. George Eliot's real name was Marian Evans; Onida's, Louisa de la Rame, and Artemus Ward's, Charles F. Browne.

KATE P.—Go into society and forget your sorrow the more you think over it the harder it will be to bear. Make as many friends among the opposite sex as you can, until you are able to place your affections on some nobler and more worthy person.

LOTTA.—1. It is proper for a lady pass in front of a gentleman through a gate or up or down stairs. 2. Etiquette allows that the lady walk either on the inside or out on the street. They should not change at every corner turned.

WILLIAM J.—If you wish to gain employment in the city permanently you will find any trade which suits your inclination to be more remunerative than any other occupation in a few years time.

TOMMIE B.—We want agents in every State in the Union as well as in every Province in the Dominion of Canada.

READER.—The air is lighter when it rains and when it looks like rain than when the sky is clear. Every effect of cloudy weather proves this, and though a common belief is that the air is heavier at such times there is no theory more absurd.

LENA.—It is not necessary to sign your full name in asking questions in this column; but when the name is signed we keep the letters as strictly confidential.

NOTE.—We must remind a few correspondents that we have to make it a rule not to answer any letters by mail unless a three cent stamp is enclosed.

OUR GEM CASKET.

"But words are things, and a small drop of ink
Falling like dew upon a thought produces
That which makes thousands, perhaps millions, think."

Woman is a miracle of divine contradictions.—*Michalet*.

Narrow waists and narrow minds go together.—*Chamfort*.

Woman is most perfect when most womanly.—*Gladstone*.

The homeliest tasks get beautiful if loving hands do them.

To a gentleman every woman is a lady in right of her sex.—*Bulwer*.

Happiness and unhappiness are qualities of mind—not of place for position.

Many judge the person, but not the cause, which is not justice, but malice.

The means to promote any end are as necessary as the end to be promoted.

Act well at the moment, and you have performed a good action to all eternity.

To repent without mending one's ways is to pump out the ship without stopping the leak.

Misunderstandings are far more difficult things than people imagine, in love or in friendship.

A woman's dress is like the envelope of a letter, the cover, is frequently an index to the contents.

The most fascinating women are those that can most enrich the everyday moments of existence.—*Leigh Hunt*.

They govern the world, these sweet-lipped women, because beauty is the index of a larger fact than wisdom.—*Oliver Wendell Holmes*.

We ought not to look back unless it is to derive useful lessons from past errors and for the purpose of profiting by dear-bought experience.—*George Washington*.

If thou wouldst conquer thy weakness, thou must never gratify it. No man is compelled to evil; his consent only makes it his. It is no sin to be tempted, but to be overcome.

It is a mistake to suppose that intelligent, immortal and responsible beings were placed in this world simply to eat and drink, having no higher enjoyment than those enjoyed in common with the brute creation.

It is a mistake to infer that one man is better than another, simply because he was born in a favorite country, that he has brains simply because he wears fine cloths (belonging to the tailor), or that wealth is a guarantee of good breeding and good behavior.

The man who is only honest when honesty is the best policy is not an honest man. Honesty is not swerving policy, but staple principle. An honest man is honest from his soul, nor deigns to stoop to ought that is mean, though great results hang on the petty fraud.

AN HONEST MAN.

A true and brave and downright honest man!

He blew no trumpet in the market place,

Nor in the church, with hypocritical face,

Supplied with cant, the lack of Christian grace;

Loathing pretence, he did with cheerful will

What others talked of, while their hands were still.

—*Whittier*.

Few know the value of cheerfulness. It is God's medicine. Everybody ought to bathe in it. Grim care, anxiety, moroseness, all this rust of life ought to be scoured by the oil of mirth. It is better than emery. Every man ought to rub himself with it. A man without mirth is like a wagon without springs, in which every one is caused disagreeably to jolt by every pebble over which it runs.

It is a sad mistake to suppose that young ladies were made simply to be arrayed like peacocks, to receive coxcomb beaux in the parlor, while the mother is a drudge in the kitchen,—“just good enough to wait upon” such a daughter—the one living in luxurious ease, and the other toiling to support such an unworthy daughter, and that on account of such pride and selfish indolence, she will make a good wife for an honest and poor young man.