

FEMALE EDUCATION.

Let your first care be to give your little girls a good physical education. Let their early years be passed, if possible, in the country, gathering flowers in the fields, and partaking of all the free exercise in which they delight. When they grow older, do not condemn them to sit eight listless hours a day over their books, their work, their maps, and their music. Be assured that half the number of hours passed in real attention to well ordered studies will make them more accomplished and more agreeable companions than those commonly are who have been most elaborately finished, in the modern acceptance of the term. The system by which young ladies are taught to move their limbs, according to the rules of art, to come into a room with studied diffidence, and to step into a carriage with measured action and premeditated grace, are only calculated to keep the degrading idea perpetually present, that they are preparing for the great market of the world. Real elegance of demeanor springs from the mind; fashionable schools do but teach it imitation, whilst their rules forbid to be ingenuous. Philosophers never conceived the idea of so perfect a vacuum as is found to exist in the minds of young women supposed to have finished their education in such establishments.

If they marry husbands as uninformed as themselves they fall into habits of insignificance without much pain; if they marry persons more accomplished, they can retain no hold of their affections. Hence many matrimonial miseries, in the midst of which the wife finds it a consolation, to be always complaining of her health and ruined nerves. In the education of young women we would say—let them be secured from all the trappings and manacles of such a system; partake of every active exercise not absolutely unfeminine, and to trust to their being able to get into or out of carriages with a light and graceful step, which no drilling can accomplish. Let them rise early and retire early to rest, and trust that their beauty will not need to be coined into artificial smiles in order to ensure a welcome, whatever room they enter. Let them ride, run, walk, dance in the open air. Encourage the merry and innocent diversions in which the young delight—let them, under proper guidance, explore every hill and valley; let them plant and cultivate the garden, and make hay when the summer sun shines, and surmount all dread of a shower of rain, or the boisterous wind; and, above all, let them take no medicine except when the doctor orders it. The demons of hysteria and melancholy might hover over a group of young ladies so brought up—but they would not find one of them upon whom they could exercise any power.

ALWAYS HAPPY.

An Italian Bishop struggled through many difficulties without repining, and met with much opposition in the discharge of his Episcopal functions, without betraying the least impatience. One of his intimate friends, who highly admired those virtues which he thought it impossible to imitate, once asked the Prelate if he could communicate the secret of always being easy. "Yes," replied the old man, "I can teach you my secret, and with great facility: it consists of making a right use of my eyes." His friend begged of him to explain himself. "Most willingly," returned the Bishop. "In whatever state I am, I first of all look up to Heaven, and remember that my principal business here is to get there; I then look down upon the earth, and call to mind how small a space I shall occupy in it when I come to be interred; I then look abroad into the world, and observe what multitudes there are who are more unhappy than myself. Thus, I learn where true happiness is placed—where all our cares must end, and what little reason I have to repine or complain.

SOULS OF TURKISH WOMEN.

De Kay, in his Sketches of Turkey, puts to flight the commonly received opinions in Europe and this country, that the Turks believe the women have no souls. If the uniform weight of evidence on any given subject is to be depended upon, we fear that the souls of the Turkish women are in a bad way. It is gravely stated and repeated by every traveller in this country, that the Turks firmly believe their females to have no souls. We once asked a sly old Mussulman the opinion of his countrymen on this subject, and the only reply was, a contemptible sneer at our gullibility; but when he was assured that such stories were printed all over Europe, he took the liberty of indulging in a most undignified fit of laughter. *Nothing, indeed, can be more explicit than the language used in their religious code in reference to the souls of women.* In the third chapter of the Koran it is said, 'The Lord saith, I will not suffer the work of him among you, who worketh good, to be lost, whether he be male or female.' In chapter the thirteenth we have, 'The reward of these shall be paradise, whether he be male or female—we shall surely raise him to a happy life.' In chapter sixteenth: 'Whoso worketh good, whether male or female, and is a true believer, they shall enter paradise.' In chapter thirty-three we have even a still more positive declaration: 'Verily, the Moslems of either sex, and the devout woman, and the women of veracity, and the patient and the humble women, who fast, and the chaste women, and those of either sex, who remember God frequently, for them has God prepared forgiveness and a great reward.' Many other texts might be quoted in confirmation of the strong religious belief on this subject, but we imagine the above are amply sufficient. In reference to this matter, there is an amusing story related of Mohammed, which is equally creditable to his ingenuity and his gallantry. Some of the Arabian commentators upon the faith of an obscure passage, in the 56th chapter, relate that an aged woman once begged Mohammed to intercede with the Deity, to admit her into paradise. He replied, abruptly, that no old woman would be admitted; but, perceiving that the poor body was much distressed, added, very gallantly, if not apostolically, that God would make her young again. This reminds one of the courteous Frenchman, who, in reply to the question, why women were not admitted into the Chamber of Deputies? said, that to be a member it was requisite to be forty years old, and it was impossible that a lady could reach that unseemly age.

SLANDER.

There is but one effectual way to cure slander, or rather to disarm and neutralize it, and that is by living it down. If you attempt to oppose it by positive agency, you but increase its malignity, and to a certain extent, are contaminated with its spirit. It is not in the power of a traducer to ruin the character of a truly upright man, who pursues the even tenor of his way, bent on having a good conscience, and acquitting himself in the eye of God.

Music, when soft voices die,
Vibrates in the memory;
Odours, when sweet violets sicken,
Live within the sense they quicken.

Rose-leaves, when the rose is dead,
Are heap'd for the beloved's bed;
And so thy thoughts, when thou art gone,
Love itself shall slumber on.

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