

THE EYE.

The eye shows character. The eyes of great warriors have almost always been gray, their brows lowering like thunder-clouds. Inventors have large eyes, very full. Philosophers the most illustrious have had large and deep-set eyes. The poets all have large, full eyes and musicians' eyes are large and lustrous.

Buffon considers that the most beautiful eyes are the black and the blue. I think I have seen black and blue eyes that were far from beautiful. Byron says the gazelle will weep at the sound of music. The gazelle's eyes have been called the most beautiful in the world, and the greatest compliment an Arab can pay his mistress is to compare her eyes to a gazelle's. The power of the eye was well illustrated in Robert Burns. He was taken to Edinburgh very much as Samson was taken to the temple—to amuse the Philistines. He was brought to the palace where the great men of Scotland were to be entertained, and was put in a back room until the time should come when they were ready for him. When they were he was brought in, and having measured the company with his wonderful eyes, he recited his immortal poem, "Is there, for Honest Poverty?" Carlyle says that when he finished, the nobles and gentlemen cowered and shrunk before his eyes. I think his words had as much to do with it as his eyes. Henry Clay's eyes were big gray ones, that looked black when he was excited. Webster's eyes were a lustrous black, and were like caged lions. Carlyle compares them to a great cathedral all lighted up. Cleopatra had black eyes. Mary Queen of Scots had liquid gray eyes. Dark eyes show power, light eyes gentleness, and gray eyes sweetness. There is great magnetic power in the eyes of several of the lower animals. The lion's, the tiger's and the serpent's eyes are all magnetic. It is well known that the serpent will charm birds that are flying above it, until in great circles they will sweep down to the destruction which awaits them. A friend of mine, a doctor, was one day walking in the field, when he saw an adder lying on a rock. He drew near to examine it, and presently looked at its eyes. He was attracted by their great beauty, and involuntarily stepped forward two or three steps. Beautiful light flowed from them, and seemed to bathe the very coils of the serpent. Gradually he drew closer, until, just as he was almost within the reptile's reach, he fell, feeling, as he said afterwards, as though he had been struck by a stone. When he became conscious his head was in a friend's lap. His first words were, "Who struck me?" "No one struck you, doctor. I saw you was charmed by the snake, and I struck it with a stone." He had struck the snake, and the doctor had felt the blow.—*Home Journal*.

FRIENDSHIP.

The point that we wish to make is, that we should not expect to have the sentiments and actions of our friends and companions always equally satisfactory to us; and after we have once made up our minds that, on the whole, we like a certain person; that we like certain or all of his ways, opinions, tastes, qualities—whatever it is that draws us to him, it is rather foolish to be rejudging him too severely every five days on a new issue. After a man is once a member of the National Academy he should not be subject to the annual weighing in the balance of the Academy's Hanging Committee.

You may say that, after we have known a man well for thirty years—and that is a long lease for a friendship in this mutable

world—it is idle to talk about its being possible for him to surprise or disappoint us. But did you ever hear of "the old man's disease"—avarice? Do you suppose that an affliction like that comes to the surface late in life, if the seeds have not been deep in the soil all the time? But that is a hard and cruel question. Let us rather speak of a more pleasing and no less surprising development. There was an old woman about whom we once wrote, to prove by an example that it is the disagreeable young folk who make the disagreeable old men and women, and that sweet girls and boys need not be troubled by the nightmare of a sour and crabbed old age. The woman we wrote about had lived out and down three husbands, and was about as unpleasant an old gossip as you might meet in a day's journey; yet the traits of her age were only the traits of her youth, stripped of whatever charm youth must have lent her. But presently, after we had held up this aged person as a warning and a consolation, what does she do but fall into her second childhood, and develop one of the sweetest and gentlest dispositions with which mortal ever blessed his or her neighbor. All she asked was her doll and her prayer-book, and all went merry as a marriage bell. No; we never know our friends. And, curiously enough, while we are going on with our discoveries concerning them, they are making the same observations upon us, and are having the same surprises and disappointments.—*The Old Cabinet; Scribner*.

ROMANISM IN ROME.

A correspondent of the *Christian Union* says of Rome:

"A profound indifference prevails. The churches are open every day from morning until noon, but O, how cold and solitary! A few priests reading prayers, a dozen people kneeling here and there, almost as many lazy beggars at the door, a monk or two with cowl and beads—what were these great ignorant fellows made for?—one or two ladies at the confessional, and a dozen tourists with their guide books—this is the unvaried scene, the summary for Sunday and the rest of the week. There are, in general, no seats; there is but little sermonizing. The prayers are in Latin, which the people do not understand.

"The young men of education are, for the most part, rationalistic; not philosophical, indeed, but holding that since modern miracles are but jugglery, the ancient, also, must be thus considered; yet, in one sense, Rome is most thoroughly Romish. The ministry is completely vaticanized; the festal days are noted, the *madre benedetta* is venerated; and everybody expects to have the mass performed at his funeral. Protestantism has but a slight foothold among the Italian people. Even many of those supposed to be converted to it, carry, it is said, the beads and image of the Virgin secretly to church with them. The attendants on our churches are mostly foreigners, or persons in some pecuniary way allied to them. Still, with an open Bible we have hope.

"The number of priests is legion. They all wear long black cloaks, silver shoe buckles, and three-cornered beaver hats. Their fresh faces indicate good living more than intellectuality or fasting, and they appear to take life quietly and easily. I lately heard of one who preached but two sermons annually, and spent the year in committing them to memory. Some of them are very bold in their expressions and have quaint ways of doing things.

"While preaching, the other day, one of them turned in his discourse to make a very tender appeal on behalf of a poor man

with a large family that needed the immediate assistance of his hearers. He portrayed the necessities of this family in such pathetic strains as to move his audience to tears, and then said:—"Such is the exigency of this case that I will stop here in my sermon and take up a collection." He descended from the tribune and passed the bag around among the people, who, being really moved by his appeal, dropped in the lire very bountifully; but on returning to his place he smilingly said:—"This poor man is the Pope."

THE PECULIAR PEOPLE IN LONDON.

The *London Times* says: "The Peculiar People, several of whose members are now awaiting trial for manslaughter in not calling in medical aid when members of their body were sick, have resolved boldly to put to practical test the question as to whether medical aid is really a necessity, or whether prayer alone is not sufficiently efficacious in all cases of sickness. For some time past a large 20 roomed house, situated in Tower street, on the north-east side of London Fields, has been empty. A few days since much excitement was caused in the neighborhood by the appearance outside the house of a board bearing the following inscription: "House of Faith, for the reception of such sick as are considered hopeless [ly] incurable, to be healed by the prayer of faith." "And all things whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."—Matthew xxi, 22nd verse. "Is any sick among you; let him call for the elders of the Church and let them pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another and pray for one another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."—St. James, chapter v., 14-16 verses. "And these signs shall follow them that believe, in my name shall they cast out devils, they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents, and if they bring any deadly thing it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover."—St. Mark, chapter xvi., 17-18 verses. There will be a strenuous opposition on the part of the inhabitants to the opening of the hospital."

THE PULSE.

Every intellectual person should know how to ascertain the state of the pulse in health; then by comparing it with what it is when he is ailing, he may have some idea of the urgency of the case. Parents should know the healthy pulse of each child—as now and then a person is born with a peculiarly slow or fast pulse, and the very case in hand may be of that peculiarity. An infant's pulse is 140; a child of seven, about 80; and from twenty to sixty it is 70 beats a minute, declining to 60 at fourscore. A healthy grown person's pulse beats 70 a minute; there may be good health down to 60; but if the pulse always exceed 70, there is disease; the machine is wearing itself out; there is a fever of inflammation somewhere, and the body is feeding on itself; as in consumption, when the pulse is quick, that is, over 70, gradually increasing with decreased chances of cure, until it reaches 110 or 120, when death comes before many days. When the pulse is over 70 for months, and there is a slight cough, the lungs are affected.