

Clever Definitions.

The following *fin-de-siècle* definitions appear in an article in *Current Literature* :—

Ambiguity—A quality deemed essentially necessary to the clear understanding of diplomatic writings, Acts of Congress and law proceedings.

Blushing—A suffusion—least seen in those who have the most occasion for it.

Brief—The excuse of counsel for an impertinence that is often inexcusable.

Cigar—A roll of tobacco, with fire at one end of it and a fool at the other.

Eye-glass—A toy which enables a coxcomb to see others, and others to see he is a coxcomb.

Miser—One who, though he loves himself better than all the world, uses himself worse; for he lives like a pauper, in order that he may enrich his heirs, whom he naturally hates.

Mouth—A useless instrument to some people, in its capacity, by the organs of speech, of rendering ideas audible; but of special service to them in its other capacity of rendering victuals invisible.

Plagiarists—Purloiners, who filch the fruit that others have gathered, and then throw away the basket.

Review—A work that overlooks the production it professes to look over, and judges of books by their authors, not of authors by their books.

Everybody's Business.

It's everybody's business,

In this old world of ours,

To root up all the weeds he finds,

And make room for the flowers;

So that every little garden,

No matter where it lies,

May look like that which God once made.

And called it Paradise.

REMEMBER THIS—The secret of securing new members to-day lies in personal solicitation, says the *A. H. L. Journal*. Even Mohamed was not fool enough to wait until the mountain came to him; he went to it. So must members of our Order, who desire to see their Councils increase, keep up to date with the times, and solicit their friends to join the Order. A veteran in the life insurance business says he has known of only two cases of voluntary application for life insurance. For some reason men have to be persuaded and solicited to insure their lives. If you want your Council to increase in membership, its members will have to induce others to join. Personal solicitation will prove more effective than all other plans combined.

The secret of success is to know how to deny yourself. If you once learn to get the whiphand of yourself, that is the best educator. Prove to me that you can control yourself, and I'll say you're an educated man, and without this all other education is next to nothing.—*Miss Oliphant*.

A Picture.

I would I were a cunning artist,
I would paint a human soul;
All denude of evil passion,
Every line and curve control.

With my penciled brush and easel,
And the colors of the world;
I would trace a pretty foreground,
As through the lights of thought I whirled.

Mezzo tints of human passion,
I would draw in colors bright;
Every curve and every wrinkle,
I would contrast with the light,

I would steep my brush in wisdom,
Mix my paint with heavenly lore;
Ask the Artist of creation
For a model, nothing more.

MICHIGAN.

BY MAJOR MCGINLEY.

REVERSED.

A young man had been talking to a bored editor for quite a quarter of an hour, and at last observed:

"There are some things in this world that go without saying."

"Yes," said the editor, "and there are still more persons in the world who say a good deal without going."—*Ram's Horn*.

ANCIENT VS. MODERN.

"Well, this makes me sick!" said the brilliant reporter; yet people say that Cæsar was a great man."

"What's that?" asked the managing editor.

"Why, he reported to Rome his defeat of Pharnaces in the words, 'I came, I saw, I conquered.' Now that story was worth at least an extra, two whole pages and a double scare head."—*Truth*.

DOUBTED THE BILL.

One of the principal men in the Bureau of Printing and Engraving had a peculiar experience in New York recently. He had occasion to visit the metropolis on business, and, after a stay of several days at one of the hotels, he called for his bill. When it was given him he tendered in payment a brand new twenty-dollar silver certificate. The clerk looked at it for a moment and then passed it back.

"What's the matter?" said the official.

"I can't take that," replied the clerk. "I don't think it's good."

"Not good!" exclaimed the official. "Not good! Why, man, I know it's good. I made it myself."

"Yes," said the clerk, "that's just what I thought."—*Washington Post*.

It has been well said: "If only the feeling of the universal brotherhood was better understood and more widely felt, what a difference it would make in life. How little sorrow would weigh upon us if every man was a brother to help—every woman a sister to console."