

distracting explosion of theatrical dynamite; unmitigated by the slightest extenuating circumstance, or palliated by the most obscure argument in favor of the various accomplishments of voice or pen which, conducted through one absolute absurdity to another, until the extinguishing expedition was transmuted into its astonishing conclusions: then, the offence becomes inexcusably exasperating. And the inconsiderate investigator who is incautious enough to enter upon a serious attempt to discover what this tumult of glittering incongruities really signifies, will perambulate but a short distance upon his indefinitely delusive search for discernable deductions, before acquiring the dismay—manufacturing information that the supposed tangible highway along which he is supposed to be flying, is only a combination of intangible no-ways, by which he has innocently emigrated from the lucidness of Was and Is, into the barely possible, but terribly improbable, situations of May Be, where nothing is discoverable that has the slightest perceivable application to any conceivable material reality, or even to the dreamy propitiations that rest upon a supposed understanding of immaterial immensities: which, undoubtedly, means that this peculiarly well proportioned idiot, will be found guilty of the solemn shortcoming of self-extinguishment; in such a manner and by such means as will not leave the slightest opportunity for resuscitation.

Hence, therefore, consequently and thus, everywhere and always, big words are to be avoided! If you must talk, or if you are compelled to write, be simple, direct and understandable, employ the smallest words that are consistent with the expression of the idiosyncrasies of your personality. If you confine yourself to the use of dear little words, you will be astonished to discover that a very few words indeed will more than tell all that there is to tell in your most elaborate train of thought. If you use nothing but the sweet little words, you will probably never indulge the poor taste for literation; for this transgression and passion for the use of big words come so near to running upon the same lines, that the one form of literary iniquity is pretty sure to include the other. Speaking of literature, the writer would prefer that literary excellence should advertise itself; but for fear that your attention might be so thoroughly absorbed in digesting the innovation of this effusion that its literary features would escape your eagle glance, you are invited to observe that this article is an especially happy example of the illustrious fact that a very inexhaustive subject can be exhaustively treated through the medium of words which are, relatively speaking, entertainingly small. The logical conclusion is this: If you want to be a big orator, or a big literary gun, don't use big words.

SINCERE SIMPLICITY.