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Pure Air vs. Medicine.

It isn't drugs or medicines that is needed at all; it is plenty of the purest air that can be had. Open the windows and the doors, clear out the cellar, and ventilate it thoroughly; remove the dampness, the mustiness, the ancient odor, the smell of decay which greets the nostrils when one enters from the health-giving atmosphere out of doors. Never mind if the outer air bears the taint of the gas-house, the manufactory or some other unpleasant thing; it is also mingled with the health and strength-giving forces of nature, and is certainly better for the human system than the same air which has been shut up and contaminated for an indefinite period, with no chance for purification. Don't mind even if a little dust is brought in; a few minutes with the duster will put the house in perfect order again, and even at the worst dust is not half so bad as disease. And as for fear of draughts, with colds and a thousand resultant evils following in their train, nineteen-twentieths of that is imaginary, and the other twentieth is easily avoidable.—Good Housekeeping.

The Time to Be Pleasant.

"Mother's cross," said Maggie, coming into the kitchen with a pout on her lips. Her aunt was busy ironing, and she looked up and answered Maggie: "Then it is the very time for you to be pleasant and helpful. Mother was awake a good deal of the night with the poor baby." Maggie made no reply. She put on her hat and walked off into the garden. But a new idea went with her—"The very time to be pleasant is when other people are cross." "True enough," thought she, "that would do the most good. I remember when I was ill last year, I was so nervous that if anyone spoke to me I could hardly help being cross; and mother never got cross or out of patience, but was quite pleasant with me. I ought to pay it back now, and I will." And she jumped up from the grass on which she had thrown herself, and turned a face full of cheerful resolution toward the room where her mother sat soothing and tending a fretful, teething baby. "Couldn't I take him out for a ride in his carriage, mother? It's such a sunny morning," she asked. "I should be glad if you would," said her mother. The hat and coat were brought, and the baby was soon ready for his ride.

"I'll keep him as long as he's good," said Maggie, "and you must lie on the sofa and take a nap while I'm gone. You are looking dreadfully tired."

The kind words and the kiss that accompanied them were almost too much for the mother, and her voice trembled as she answered:

"Thank you, dear; it will do me a world of good. My head aches badly this morning."

What a happy heart Maggie's was as she turned the carriage up and down that walk! She resolved to remember and act on her aunt's good words:

"The very time to be helpful and pleasant is when everybody is tired and cross."—The Young Reaper.

Religion consists less in forming ideals than in realizing them. We all have ideals higher than our attainments; religion consists in attaining those which we already possess, though incidentally it give us, in the process, new and higher ideals. Religion brings with it high thoughts and noble emotions; but it does not consist in high thoughts and noble emotions; it consists in realizing, in deed and life, practical effect to noble emotions. Religion does not consist in thinking great things about God or goodness, nor in feeling high emotions respecting God or goodness, but in doing some service for God and being somewhat like God.—The Outlook.

To many it has become a very bitter reflection that opportunities for doing good have been suffered to pass unimproved. A friend or neighbor stood in need of an act of kindness, and they did not respond to the appeal, and the kind word that would have given support and comfort was not spoken. And now, when it is too late, the memory of their neglect is a burden upon their hearts.—National Presbyterian.

The Bible is its own defense. The best thing to do is to let the Bible have free course and it will prove its own power.—JOHN F. CARSON.

The New York Observer, quoting the following: "It is not the business of the church to popularize Christianity, but to christianize the populace," adds these sensible words of comment: "We do not know who is the author of that pithy sentence, but understand that it is a nugget of imported wisdom. Christian workers generally will do well to read, reflect and remember."

I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom and that of all about me seemed insufficient for that day.—A. LINCOLN.

If you want to be filled with the Holy Ghost, obey; if you want to keep filled, go right on obeying.—D. L. MOODY.

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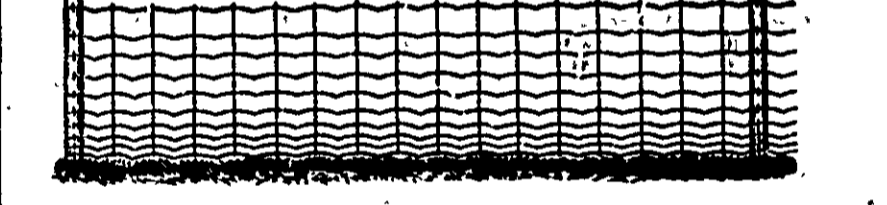
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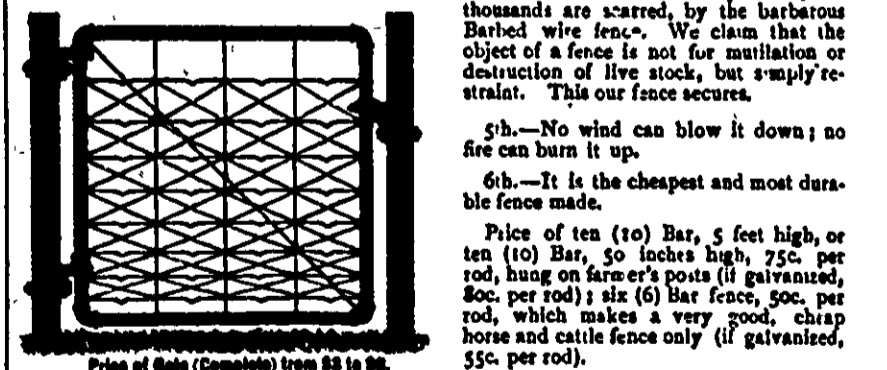
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