

lady. "I declare, I never before comprehended the happiness and the power for good there is in being 'real pleasant.'"

There is power in pleasantness. There is lack of power in gloominess. There is power in the cheery word. There is lack of power in the utterances of the crabbed and dejected. "God has made sunny spots in the heart; why should we exclude the light from them?" It is particularly sad to see a young person sullen, morbid and dejected. These snapping, snarling young people, how disagreeable they can be!

"Did you ever in your life hear Helen B— say a kind thing about anyone?" asked one girl of another.

"I am sorry to say that I never did."

"Isn't it too bad that such a bright, handsome, even brilliant girl should have a temper that seems to be in a constant turmoil and a tongue like caustic?"

"It is more than too bad—it is pitiful. She has fewer and fewer friends every year, and she makes no effort to retain the friendship of those she has left."

"Poor girl! She is a source of such gloom and discomfort to herself as well as to others. I tell you, Mary, the older I grow the more apparent it becomes to me that cheerfulness is one of the duties as well as the virtues of life, and I'm going to join the ranks of the 'real pleasant' people."

"I'll join with you," replied Mary, laughingly, "for I do think that this world has need of all the pleasant people one can find in it. The army of the dejected and disagreeable is certainly large enough."

It certainly is; do you not think so?

HOW BLIND CHILDREN PLAY.

Many young people, who have good eyesight of their own, will be interested to learn how little folks who have no sight at all can get on. A writer in "Little Folks" gives a very interesting account of their doings:

"At the place called Swiss Cottage, in the northern part of London, there is a large and splendid building called the Blind School. Many of the blind boys and girls of London are sent to this school to be taught to read and write, and to learn some kind of work, so that when they grow up they may be able to earn their own living. A visit to this Blind School is a very interesting and wonderful experience. When the author of this article went with his friend, the photographer, they were shown into a large playground. A number of girls were playing together, and at first it was impossible to believe that they were blind. Most of them were romping about just like ordinary children with eyesight. They never ran into one another, nor stumbled against corners, so that they seemed to see exactly where they were going.

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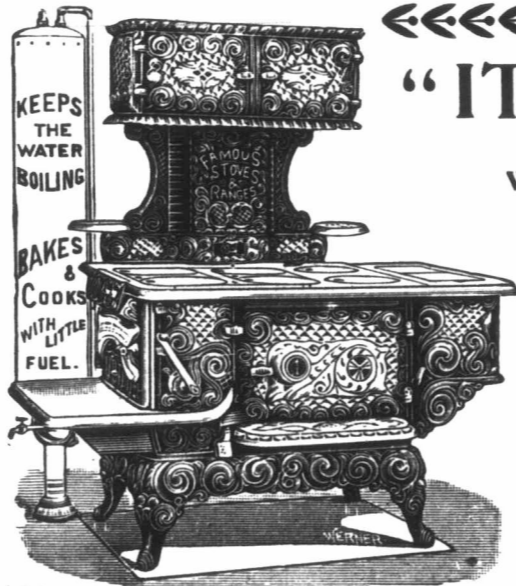
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