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Side Talks by Ruth Cameron

A LETTER.

Here is a letter which has come to me recently:

"I would like to ask you to write your opinion of a man married the second time who, whenever somebody comes to the house or he meets anybody on the street or anywhere, never misses a chance to refer to his first wife in the presence of his second wife.

"To my way of thinking this is very humiliating and insulting to his second wife, and yet he tells her she loves her. What do you think of him?"

"Yours truly,"
"Unhappy."

Silly Or Cruel.

What could anyone think of such a man? That he is either silly or cruel, I suppose.

I started to call him tactless, but that seemed a bit weak for an action which anyone with a glimmer of sense must know would embarrass and discomfort.

And yet how often one hears husbands and wives who unquestionably really care for each other, nevertheless rub each other the wrong way with what seems to an outsider like the most unnecessary crudeness.

"That's Just Like You."

For instance, the wife makes some mistake and the husband promptly says, "Yes, that's just like you." Now to be told that an awkwardness

An Ordinary Amendment.

CONSTITUTION NOT INVOLVED, Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir.—There is something of a melo-drama, or mock-heroics in Mr. MacDonnell's planting of himself on the constitution, striking a "Come-one-come-all, this-look-shall-it-from-one-come-all, this-look-shall-it-from-one-come-all" attitude, his firm-basis-the-soon-as-I-attitude, and insinuating that he will never, never recede from his determination to protect the constitution of the land. Mr. MacDonnell is all alone in his solitude for the constitution. It is not involved.

The granting of women suffrage would be a change in the constitution, says Mr. MacDonnell, and the legislature has no mandate to do that, and they couldn't do so without the mandate of the people. I have a hazy idea that even with that mandate the legislature wouldn't have power to change the constitution—I fancy that the Imperial Parliament would do that little thing. As a matter of fact, the matter of constitution doesn't come in. The Election Act does. To make women suffrage operative it is necessary only to amend that act so as to read "all males and females over 21." The legislature is supreme in Newfoundland. It has power to amend the Election Act, even though on more than one occasion at least it has used. It need take no plebiscite on the question at all. Then again, it may take one from the present constituents—the men. Still again, it may take one from the women only. Again, it may take one from men and women—and in either case act contrary to the result of the plebiscite or in accordance, just as it chooses. Now, it is quite constitutional for the legislature to amend the Election Act to give women suffrage, without taking any plebiscite. Perhaps it may be undemocratic. I do claim that that would be less undemocratic to amend without a plebiscite than to amend with one from the men—when the matter is one which affects all the people, men and women. That is to say, if there is to be a sounding of views, it should be a sounding of the views of all the people considered, or none. Suppose that to amend the Election Act without any plebiscite were undemocratic in the short run; would not the fact that it was done to ensure greater democracy justify it? When two principles are involved the greater one should prevail.

Mr. MacDonnell wants to have the women suffrage matter referred to the men (i.e. part of the people concerned), who are the legislature's constituents. Now, Mr. MacDonnell happens to be in Ireland. Suppose he is introduced in Ireland. Suppose a child's pet canary recently received surgical treatment at the Seaman's Hospital, Greenwich. The bird's leg was badly fractured, and its owners appeal for help met with a ready response from the house-surgeon.

He very tenderly lifted the tiny leg, gravely applied a match splint, and the fracture was set. The patient is reported to be doing well.

Usually, animals are their own medical advisers and surgeons, and some wonderful cures have been put on record. Cats will devour chew grass, as do dogs; but the latter require a certain kind, commonly known as "dog-grass." It is thicker and coarser than the usual variety.

Sheep and cows seek out a certain herb. Rheumatism-sufferers stay out of the sun's glare. A wounded antelope stanches the flow of blood by dressing the injury with leaves and grass. The sting of a viper seldom kills one of the four-footed tribe; they know how to deal with this danger.

Most wonderful of all is the ant-worm ambulance and hospital. Numbers of these marvellous little creatures are allocated first-aid duties,

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—Got that tired feeling which makes you want to sleep all the time? You're run down and need tonic.

Dr. Wilson's HERBINE BITTERS

The natural remedy for all ailments which so many people have at this time of the year. The Tonic is made from the curative principles of Dandelion, Nettle, Burdock, and other medicinal herbs, which make it quite harmless.

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Then we have Foot Formed Shoes for Boys, Misses, Children and Infants in the best of styles.

We ask your consideration and by the Excellence of our Footwear and the Fairness of our Prices we hope to win your patronage.

REMEMBER ALWAYS!

Please Remember that all Shoe Prices sound about alike and that quoted Prices mean but little until you see the Shoe Style and value attached to the Price!

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Blocks of every size, including Snatch Blocks, Blaying Pins, Rouse Chocks, Gin Blocks.

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See Our Assortment and be convinced of the values we are now offering.

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Thoughtful Bricklayer.

(From an Exchange)

A man was walking along the street, when he drew near to some laborers, who were engaged in building a house.

As he passed the scaffolding a brick accidentally fell, striking him on the shoulder.

Looking up to the men who were two stories high, he shouted indignantly:

"Hi! up there! You've dropped a brick on me!"

"All right!" responded one of the bricklayers. "You needn't trouble to bring it up!"

A similar cable has been laid in one of the channels of New York Harbour, and these are the only two in use at present.

WELL DRESSED AT SMALL COST.

If you do not intend to get a Suit or Overcoat for the holiday season, you can at least be well dressed by having your clothes cleaned and pressed at SPURRELL the Tailor's, 365 Water Street, and it will cost you about \$1.50. Do you need a new Velvet Collar on your Overcoat?—m.w.t.t.

REINARD'S LINIMENT RELIEVES COLDS, ETC.