

Work, Smiles and Chatter of Women

By E. R. C. W.

She was talking for the benefit of the crowd, regardless of the fact that, with the exception of her companion in conversation, all were strangers to her. Her voice was clear and unmodulated; her laughter hearty and frequent, and her conversation as near monologue as one could hope to find off the vaudeville stage.

Her appearance and style was strictly Bohemian; her hair very undy, but she evidently considered herself entertaining and she was, very much so, too.

It was on a recent short trip on a local steamer that I met this fellow traveler. The stops were frequent at the many landings, and, though I knew the country and people well, this stranger girl seemed to know them more intimately.

From her monologue I learned that one of my friends was shortly to be married in opposition to her parents' wishes. I learned of family quarrels; set forth in highly amusing lights, amongst family friends whom I had never before suspected of such petty traits; and the whole was so charmingly and cheerfully unfolded and commented upon, in ignorant disregard of the fact that across the tiny cabin, a son of that family was an interested listener.

She told us of some newly married couples that she had recently seen in the park, and her detailed descriptions of their devotion was punctuated with frequent and loud laughter, and ended with the assurance that when she married, she should seclude herself from the eyes of the world, "where she could act as silly as she pleased, and no one could make fun of her."

She assured the whole of us through her one acquaintance, that "she" just loved simply loved, Thackeray, and Mrs. Southworth; and thought their stories, only equalled by Rhoda Broughton's, whom she also "just adored."

And now the steamer was just drawing near the "landing" where I was to leave the boat.

"Do you know Mr. B—, of this place?" asked our entertainer of her friend.

"No?" My, you ought to know him, he's such a dear old grandfather of a man! I met him when I was sixteen and he was devoted to me. I was very lively when I was a girl, and he seemed to enjoy my company so much. They say he married a girl from the States and she just runs him to suit herself. Poor fellow! I feel so sad when I think of him, and he was so proud of his children; a regular old clucking hen; he always makes me think of a clucking hen with a dove of chickens when I hear how he devotes himself to them. I heard he was no more for them as I said, was my landing; and my ears were ringing with the sound of that advertising voice and its hearty laughter, because, you see, I was that "woman" from the States, who was running that dear old grandfatherly clucking hen to suit herself!

I wonder, if amongst the young women who turn to this page, there may be chance to be talking to the crowd— one who talks across aisles or from seat to seat in public places; or in a loud tone to a nearby companion.

I would not have ventured the query a week ago, thinking that I heard the trait of the "woman" and uncultured only; whose eyes no funny experiences, or little lectures could serve to open. But the subject of this sketch, whose identity I learned from her own chatter, belonged to the educated class at least, and to a profession whose members are known as ladies and gentlemen, if they are truly professional in conduct. So, brought to a starting point, I heard that the "woman" was a public entertainer, and a little vanity may lead a really good and otherwise nice girl, to some foolishness of speech and manner. I have given you this true, though only in this aspect; that you may judge as to how truly amusing such entertainers may make themselves amongst strangers.

And if advice is needed, I had said, avoid all references to public entertainers, and moderate your voice, to its lowest tones.

I want to send the message of the "famous story" to the women who are called to the berry, to the apple, to the "done out" with the heat, must get dinner or supper while the men folks rest.

The message will also be welcomed by the busy mother who must sew and mend, and would gladly save time, heat and fuel, in many ways, economize labor for herself and her family, by this foolproof, fireproof method of cooking.

You will doubt, if the idea is new, and perhaps refuse to try this labor saving, but, doubt as you will, the fact remains the same; may I, if you will, serve a hot, well cooked meal, with no fire after seven or eight o'clock in the morning.

The method has been thoroughly tested and found satisfactory, even by the commissary department of the regular army in the U. S. The only outfit needed, is a set of stone crocks, covered, or earthen crocks, the thick, low variety used for baking custards, etc., and which may be covered with a plate in place of a regular cover as the crocks have. For a large family, the crocks are necessary.

The cooking power is hay; plenty of hay—the best quality, known, and the most faithful retainer of heat entrusted to its care. To make your fireless cook stove, place on the bottom of your box a layer of papers, two or four thick, and three inches of hay, packed closely. The top to be covered is brought to actual boiling—over the early morning fire, is then placed in the crocks (heated to reserve heat) and covered with food, without fire, closely covered with plate or earthen cover, and placed in the box. Over the plate is laid a hay pillow; and around the crock is a hay pillow, packed, wind, as tightly as possible with hay around each crock, and the whole covered with a blanket to retain the heat, and the box cover then placed over the top, and the box is ready.

Do not open it again till you wish to serve dinner. If, before meal time, things will not "boil to pieces"—they will simply keep at it, and turn out in perfect shape. Even your tea will not boil, but simply retain its heat. Added—I give you a few ideas as to methods and time. Soup—boil the meat,

vegetables and seasoning all together over the morning fire for 15 minutes; place in crock, pack and leave untouched four hours. Four hours are all required for a stew; which should be cooked over the morning fire for 20 minutes to half an hour, are seasoned, crocked and packed to be nicely "boiled" in four hours.

Beans—Soaked over night, parboiled 20 minutes to half an hour, are seasoned, crocked and packed to be nicely "boiled" in four hours.

Corned beef or pork and vegetables; a real boiled dinner of turnips, cabbage and potatoes may be prepared in the crock. Cook the corned beef in cold water. Bring to boiling point and skim; add the vegetables and boil half an hour, crock and pack.

Sauerkraut—Parboiled for 15 minutes, crock, pack ready for use in three hours.

Added to this there is no scent of food, even cabbage or kraut, to hint to the cook, as the crock must not be opened till all dishes are to be removed. There is no evaporation, so extra water for this is not allowed. Flavors do not escape, as the crock must not be opened at the expiration of the allotted time for cooking—another hour or two will not injure the food; they simply keep hot.

For the girl who works in an office, and cooks over a gas jet, the fire box is a blessing on cold or rainy days. In a candy bucket she may have packed a crock of soup, stew or beans, and hot men ready for her dinner, hot and place of the hurried cold lunch. A candy bucket will hold a small crock, and sufficient hay for cooking the parboiled food.

"Oh dear!—It's so warm these July days; I do wish the men would eat cold vegetables!"

And so they will, if you serve them properly, and the men too. This is the cold vegetable lunch—sometimes served, and our men folks say they could "eat it every day."

Chop into pieces the size of half a hazel nut, cold boiled potatoes to fill an ordinary vegetable dish. Set these aside, and chop fine the heart of a cabbage, or a couple heads of lettuce, no more for them as I said, was my landing; and my ears were ringing with the sound of that advertising voice and its hearty laughter, because, you see, I was that "woman" from the States, who was running that dear old grandfatherly clucking hen to suit herself!

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is done. When next you have a fire, add to each three cups of juice one cup of sugar, and set to boil for twenty minutes actual boiling, skim, add one third quantity of best vinegar to the syrup, let it remain on the stove till the vinegar is well heated. Remove from the fire, and to each quart of juice and vinegar add a teaspoonful (even) tartaric acid. Bottle, cork, and seal with a preparation of resin melted with one-third talcum. Keep this dressing wax on hand in a can and all bottled stuff may be quickly sealed by dipping the neck of the corked bottle into the melted "wax."

Next week I shall give you a piece of illustrated fashion, and I trust that this feature of our own corner, may prove welcome to you all. I shall feel very grateful for any pretty illustrated work, accompanied by correct directions for making. For good photographs, taken with a Brownie camera, if clear, makes a good illustration, if you care to pass a favorite piece of work on to the other workers.

Also—if you are helped by this "Chatter of Women" send in such items regarding women's work, as you think will help others, they will find publication and a good photograph. There is at least variety in doing the same old thing in a brand new way; so send in the new way.

ESTELLE'S FASHION LETTER

New York, July 7.—As the warm weather asserts itself and lingerie waists and linen, cotton and muslin gowns are more and more in demand, the fever for hand embroidery steadily increases. It is a fashion and a fancy that seems simplicity itself, but an embroidered gown is by no means a low-priced affair. A genuine Christian Scientist loves Protestant and Catholic, D. D. and M. D.,—loves all who love God, good; and he loves his enemies. It will be found that, instead of opposing, such an individual subverts the interests of both medical faculty and Christianity, and they thrive together, learning that Mind-power is good-will toward men. Thus unfolding the true metal in character, the iron in human nature rusts away; honesty and justice, not "just ice," characterize the seeker and finder of Christian Science.

Thanks for the railroad company's courtesy; long live that railroad management, in which "man's a man for a' that!"

The pride of place or power is the prince of this world that hath nothing in Christ. Our great Master said: "Except ye become as a little child, ye cannot enter the kingdom of heaven"—the reign of righteousness, the glory of good, healing the sick and saving the sinner. The height of my hope must remain glory to be Thee, Thou God most high and mighty.

Whatever is not divinely natural and demonstrably true in ethics, philosophy, or religion is pot of God and originates in the minds of mortals. It is the Adam dream according to the Scriptural allegory, wherein man is supposed to start from dust and woman to be the outcome of man's rib,—marriage synonymous with legalized lust, and the offspring of sense the murderers of their brothers!

Wholly apart from this mortal dream, this illusion and delusion of sense, Christian Science comes to reveal man as God's image. His idea, co-existent with Him—and God giving all and man having all that God gives. Whence, then, came the creation of matter, sin, and death, mortal pride and power, prestige or privilege? The first commandment of the Hebrew Decalogue, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me," and the Golden Rule are the all-in-all of Christian Science. They are the spiritual idealism and realism, which, when realized, constitute a Christian Scientist, heal the sick, reform the sinner, and rob the grave of its victory.

The spiritual understanding, which demonstrates Christian Science, enables the devout Scientist to worship, not an unknown God, but Him whom, understanding even in part, he continues to love more and to serve better.

Beloved, I am not with you in *proba persona* at this memorable Dedication and Communion season, but I am with you in spirit and in truth, lovingly thanking your generosity and fidelity, and saying virtually what the prophet said: "Continue to choose whom ye will serve."

Forgetting the Golden Rule and indulging sin, men cannot serve God; they cannot demonstrate the omnipotence of divine Mind, that heals the sick and the sinner. Human will may mesmerize and mislead man; divine wisdom, never. Indulging deceit is like the defendant arguing for the plaintiff in favor of a decision, which he knows will be turned against himself.

We cannot serve two masters. Do we love God supremely? Are we honest, just, faithful? Are we true to ourselves? "God is not mocked." "Whoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." To abide in our unselfed better self, is to be done forever with the sins of the flesh, the wrongs of human life, the tempter and temptation, the smile and deceit of damnation. When we have overcome us in all its forms, men may revile us and despitely use us, and we shall rejoice, "for great is our reward in heaven."

You have dexterously and wisely provided for The Mother Church of Christ, Scientist, a magnificent Temple wherein to enter and pray. Greatly impressed and encouraged thereby, deeply do I thank you for this proof of your progress, unity, and love.

The modest edifice of The Mother Church of Christ, Scientist, began with the cross; its excelsior Extension is the crown. The room of your Leader remains in the beginning of this edifice, evidencing the praise of babes, and the Word, which proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Its crowning ultimate rises to a mental monument, a superstructure high above the work of men's hands, even the outcome of their hearts, giving to the material a spiritual significance,—the speed, beauty, and achievements of goodness. Methinks this church is the one edifice on earth, which most prefigures self-abnegation, hope, faith, love, catching a glimpse of glory.

MARY BAKER G. EDDY

Pleasant View, Concord, N. H., June 9, 1906.

At the dedication of the Extension of the "Mother Church" of Christian Science, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass., Sunday June 10th, the message of its Pastor, emeritus, Mrs. Eddy, read at the six dedicatory services, is here given, as it appeared in the Boston Herald of June 11th:

DEDICATORY MESSAGE

By MARY BAKER G. EDDY.

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CHOOSE YE.

My Beloved Brethren:—

The divine might of Truth demands well-doing in order to demonstrate truth, and this not alone in accord with human desire but with spiritual power. St. John writes: "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

The sea leaves of faith without works, scattered abroad in Zion's waste places, appeal to reformers. "Show me thy faith by thy works."

Christian Science is not a dweller apart in royal solitude; it is not a law of matter nor a transcendentalism that heals only the sick. This Science is a law of divine Mind, a persuasive animus, an unerring impetus, an ever-present help. Its presence is felt for it acts and acts wisely, always unfolding the highway of hope, faith, understanding. It is the higher criticism, the higher hope, and its effect on man is mainly this—that what one knows of him, on examination one is compelled to think genuine, whoever did it. A Christian Scientist verifies his calling. Choose ye!

When, by losing one's faith in matter and sin, one finds the spirit of Truth, then he practices the Golden Rule spontaneously, and obedience to this rule spiritualizes man, for the world's *volens volens* cannot enthrall it. Lust, dishonesty, sin, disables the student; it precludes the practice or efficient teaching of Christian Science, the truth of man's being.

The Scripture reads: "He that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me." On this basis, how many are following the Waysower? We follow Truth only as we follow truly, meekly, patiently, spiritually, blessing saint and sinner with the heaven of divine Love, which woman has put into Christendom and medicine.

A genuine Christian Scientist loves Protestant and Catholic, D. D. and M. D.,—loves all who love God, good; and he loves his enemies. It will be found that, instead of opposing, such an individual subverts the interests of both medical faculty and Christianity, and they thrive together, learning that Mind-power is good-will toward men. Thus unfolding the true metal in character, the iron in human nature rusts away; honesty and justice, not "just ice," characterize the seeker and finder of Christian Science.

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Pleasant View, Concord, N. H., June 9, 1906.

London, June 22.—Visitors to London are now seeing the capital of the Empire at its best. It is the height of the season and the strangers within its gates have imported a holiday air into its streets, which in many parts are almost impassable with the gay crowded traffic. The unimaginative Londoner is inflated with the enthusiasm of the admiring sightseer and begins to realize something of the beauty and magnificence of the old city, now that glorious summer has made it all so bright and hospitable and picturesque. Hospitality is the prevailing note of the season. Every citizen feels pride in answering the stranger's queries and pointing out the thousand and one famous and historic streets and houses and then the strangers are colonials or foreigners, the kindly hospitality must have a tremendous influence in strengthening the good feeling and friendship between Englishmen and the citizens of far countries. Just now the German flag is conspicuously prominent in the large party of German editors who for the first time have come here on behalf of the German press to study English institutions and English public opinion and to attempt to connect the national sentiment which means so much to the progress of the World. They have been through Westminster.

The banquet at the Whitehall rooms to be given on the 24th inst. will go far to cement the cordial friendship between England and Germany. The speeches of two distinguished members of the government, the lord chancellor and Mr. James Bryce, made a deep and gratifying impression. The editor of the Westminster Gazette, in proposing "German Journalism" charmed his German conferees who were quick to recognize the value of the German press. The famous editor of "Die Nation," Dr. Theodore Barth, in a speech delivered in perfect English said "we see the press of every civilized country standing in the ranks of international disarmament at the Hague Conference, let us begin with the disarmament of the press. But as Dr. Barth wittily reminded his audience to be careful not to let the German press understand its reputation—misunderstanding is the mother of suspicion, and suspicion is the chief cause of international trouble. The hospitality extended to the German press, and the friendly and cordial relations of the German press to the English press, are a fine example of international disarmament at the Hague Conference, let us begin with the disarmament of the press. But as Dr. Barth wittily reminded his audience to be careful not to let the German press understand its reputation—misunderstanding is the mother of suspicion, and suspicion is the chief cause of international trouble. The hospitality extended to the German press, and the friendly and cordial relations of the German press to the English press, are a fine example of international disarmament at the Hague Conference, let us begin with the disarmament of the press. But as Dr. Barth wittily reminded his audience to be careful not to let the German press understand its reputation—misunderstanding is the mother of suspicion, and suspicion is the chief cause of international trouble. 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