

upper end and lay the vines down in the direction of the lower.

As soon as the frost is out of the ground in the Spring, a trellis must be constructed with upright posts and horizontal strips, or wires. When fastening the vines to the trellis, the short arm should be trained along the top of lower strip or bar, and tied with bark or twine. The long cane should be fastened to the top bar, about twelve inches from the perpendicular, and the arm brought down in the same direction as the lower one, and tied to the strip of wire.

No shoots should be allowed to grow, except on the arms, and these should be thinned to six inches apart, by rubbing of the lower ones. Summer pruning is highly recommended, but this does not consist in removing the leaves, but in removing every superfluous shoot, and in repeatedly pinching or cutting the laterals. One-third more grapes may be perfected in a given space with summer pruning than without it. By giving protection in Winter, the grape crop is surer than any other kind of fruit. — *Western Rural*.

Fireside Selections.

Spring Has Come Again.

The paths are pleasant through the land,
Where Spring has gone before,
O lay your hand, love, in my hand,
And let us love once more.
Shall promises prove empty air;
Shall all our vows be vain,
Now that the flowers are everywhere,
And Spring has come again?

Nor smiling sea, nor sky above,
Can make me happy, nor
The sweet green earth: it is your love
That I am thirsting for.
Even as the grass and pale flowers fair
Thirst for the dew and rain,
Now that the birds sing everywhere,
And Spring has come again.

Should Spring-time teach the bird to sing,
And calm the angry sea,
Should she who bringeth sweet things, bring
Nothing for you and me?
No love to banish all our care,
And take away our pain,
Now that the flowers are everywhere,
And she has come again?

O love, do you remember yet
The place beneath the tree,
Where cowslip grows, and violet?
Oh, come to it, that we
May still be happy, resting there
Where we so oft have lain,
Now that the birds sing everywhere,
And Spring has come again.

How to be Polite.

Do not try too hard to be polite. Never overwhelm your friends by begging them to make themselves at home, or they will soon wish they were there. Show by your actions rather than your words that you are glad to see them. Have enough regard for yourself to treat your greatest enemy with quite politeness. All petty slights are merely needless and hurt yourself more than anyone else. Do not talk about yourself or your family to the exclusion of other topics. What if you are clever, and a little more so than other people, it may be that other folks will think so, whatever they ought to do. It may be interesting to you to talk over your ailments but very tiresome for others to listen to. Make people think you consider them clever and agreeable and they will be pretty apt to have a pleasant opinion of yourself. Treat people just as you would like to have them treat you. It is much easier to lose the good opinion of people than to regain it; and when he or she does not care for the good opinion of others he or she is not worthy of respect. Do not excuse your house, furniture, or the table you set before your guests. It is fair to suppose their visits are to you, not your surroundings. The whole machinery of social intercourse is very delicate and intricate, and it is our business to keep all places of possible friction well supplied with the oil of politeness.

The spelling schools that are spreading all over Ohio are said to have demonstrated the fact that a woman can spell five times better than a man.

LOVE, FEAR, HATE.—Love nothing but what is just and honorable; fear nothing but what is ignoble; and hate nothing but what is dishonest.

Has it never occurred to us, when surrounded by sorrows, that they may be sent to us only for our instruction, as we darken the cages of birds when we wish them to sing.

Beginning Badly.

Hard times compel economy, and they suggest a very common fault among young people—beginning life with extravagant habits. Most men who acquire large wealth begin prudently, spending little and saving much. The following incident has a moral:—

One old gentleman, who commenced life as a poor boy, had, by mastering the difficult steps to final success, gained considerable wealth as a merchant. When he arrived at old age he retired to private life, to live in ease and comfort on his income, leaving a prosperous business in the hands of his son.

In three years the young man was bankrupt. He had failed in business, and was compelled to take a position as clerk in a stranger's store.

His father was asked why it was that in a business in which he had succeeded so well, his son had failed.

He gave this characteristic answer:—

"When I first commenced business my wife and I lived on porridge. As my business increased we had better food; and when I could afford it we had chicken. But you see Johnnie commenced with the chicken first."

Sea Shells in the Andes.

Sea shells have been found in the Andes mountains fully 15,000 feet above the sea! When I first heard this I had almost a mind to declare that I didn't believe it. But it is never very wise to say that one doesn't believe anything that's wonderful without stopping to inquire further; there are so many wonderful things that are true. And this is true. The great traveler and naturalist, Humboldt, picked up some sea shells at that great height on the top of the Andes. How did they get there? It is not probable that the ocean waters ever rose to such a height, but it is quite likely that the now magnificent Andes were once very low ridges beneath the sea, and that these great fires which are always burning in the heart of the earth and raging to get out, once raised up by a mighty effort the whole long and grand range of Andean mountains. So the sea shells were carried up with the mountains high and dry as they are to-day, and the poor shell animals wondered at the dreadful change, and sickened and died in the bitter, dry mountain air long, long ages ago.

Errors in Books.

It is related of a literary man in Greece, that he undertook to publish a book which should not contain a single error. To accomplish this result, after having the proof-sheets carefully revised by different persons, he hung them up in a public room of the college, offering a reward of one guinea to any person who would detect any error therein. Many of the learned, attracted by a desire to succeed, and others by the reward, carefully perused the sheets. When the book made its appearance, on the very first page, and in the second line, a typographical error was discovered. All things considered, the accurate state of printing in general is to be admired, and errata ought more freely to be pardoned than the fastidious minuteness of the insect eye of certain critics has allowed.

Gaiety.

There are two kinds of gaiety; the one arises from want of heart; being touched by no pity, sympathizing with no pain even of its own causing, it shines and glitters like a frost-bound river in the gleaming sun. The other springs from excess of heart; that is, from a heart overflowing with kindness towards all men and all things; and, suffering under no superadded grief, it is light from the happiness which it sees. This may be compared to the same river, sparkling and smiling under the sun of summer; and running on to give fertility and increase to all within, even to many beyond, its reach.

Russian Proverbs.

Every fox praises his own tail.
A debt is adorned by payment.
Roguary is the last of all trades.
Never take a crooked path while you can see a straight one.
Fear not threats of the great, but rather the tears of the poor.
Ask a pig to dinner and he will put his feet on the table.

Under a Microscope.

Any of our readers can test for themselves the curious revelations of a microscope by the purchase even of a cheap instrument. It will well repay the expense incurred. Here is a list of some of the wonders seen through a microscope:—

Insects of various kinds can be seen in the cavities of a grain of sand. Mold is a forest of beautiful trees, with the branches, leaves, flowers and fruit. Butterflies are fully feathered. Hairs are hollow tubes. The surface of our bodies is covered with scales like fish; a single grain of sand would cover one hundred and fifty of these scales, and yet a single scale covers five hundred pores. Through these narrow openings the sweat forces itself out like water through a sieve. The mites make five hundred steps a second. Each drop of stagnant water contains a world of animated beings, swimming with as much liberty as whales in the sea. Each leaf has a colony of insects grazing on it, like oxen on a meadow. A speck of potato-rot the size of a pin head contains about two hundred ferocious little animals, biting and clawing each other savagely.

VARIETIES.

Strive to elevate yourselves, but never by pulling others down.

WHAT IT COSTS TO BE A LOAFER.—Does the young man who persists in being a loafer, ever reflect how much less it would cost to be a decent, respectable man? Anybody can be a gentleman if he chooses to be, but it is expensive being a loafer. It costs time—days, months, years of it. It costs friends. Your consorts will be only the buccaneers of society. It costs health, vigor, comfort—all true pleasures in living, honor, dignity, self-respect, and the respect of the world when living, and finally all regret and consideration when dead.

MENTAL CULTIVATION.—What plowing, digging and harrowing is to land, thinking, reflecting and examining is to the mind. Each has its proper culture; and as the land that is suffered to lie waste and wild for a long time will be overspread with brushwood, brambles, thorns and weeds, which have neither use nor beauty, so there will not fail to sprout up, in a neglected, uncultivated mind, a great number of prejudices and absurd opinions, which owe their origin partly to the soil itself, the passions and imperfections of the mind of man, and partly to those seeds which chance to be scattered in it by every kind of doctrine which the cunning of statesmen, the singularity of pedants, and the superstition of fools raise.

EAR-RINGS AND OTHER TRINKETS.—My dear girls, leave this trinket show to Indians, and use no other jewelry than a neat, small pin to hold the collar, and a delicate small chain to guard your watch. The watch should be in a pocket and not slipped under the belt. The belt must be mischievously tight to hold the watch. To wear a watch pushed half-way under the belt is to constantly expose it to accident, and at best to make a vain announcement of the fact that you have one. In England it is a common remark, that you may know a nobleman by his plain dress, and by the absence of jewelry. And I will add, that everywhere you will know a shoddy pretender by an excessive display of jewelry. No person of really fine culture delights in an exhibition of trinkets or gewgaw of any kind. The refined soul cannot make an ornamental parade.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* says: In the present day a conviction seems to be dawning on the minds of many that it is well not to stake too much on the certain operation of instinct of any sort. An impetus will perhaps be given to this tendency towards caution by the action of a rat—not indeed a seceder from the opposite camp, but a bona-fide rat—who has declined to follow the course assigned to him by the best zoologists. This rat was destined the other day as breakfast for a serpent in the Jardin des Plantes at Paris, and was with this purpose introduced into the cage of the reptile. It was unquestionably the rat's duty, on being brought face to face with the serpent, to have become fascinated and to have obeyed the instinct which is supposed to deliver "such small deer" an unresisting prey to the destroyer. Far from fulfilling the duty traditionally incumbent upon him, this daring innovator flew at the throat of the snake and bit it so severely as to produce instant death, and a loss to the garden of about 2,000 francs' worth of serpent. This unexpected result has, however, had the good effect of determining the managers of the Jardin des Plantes to feed their reptiles upon dead animals only, the "fascination theory" having proved an utter failure.

The Beau

[FROM "HOMER"

Before we I think a wo immediate turf or grave

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