

usly suppose, an indubitable proof of devotion. The love which cannot trust is not to be trusted. Even if a man imagines that as soon as his sweetheart promises to marry him he owns her, he is unwise to let her or other people know his opinion. The modern woman objects to being "owned," even by the man whom she loves, be he lover or husband. As with the son in the gospel, "it is a gift." It is undignified, as well as foolish, for a man to object when other men admire his fiancée and show their admiration by attention to her. There may possibly be cause for ire when it is another man instead of other men, and she gladly encourages the attentions, in which case she is unworthy of a true man's love. But when she does not reciprocate nor seek the admiration, her lover has no reason to take umbrage. Instead let him rejoice, since the fact that other men find her attractive is the sincerest of compliments to his own good taste in selection. Especially when an engaged couple are attending a social gathering it is bad form for them to cling together all the time and pay no regard to the other guests. A man of savoir faire, which includes the use as well as the possession of good sense, will give other men an opportunity to talk to his fiancée, and will himself be courteous to other women. Which does not mean that he shall be too courteous, to the neglect of his fiancée. On the contrary, he should be constantly on the lookout for her and return to her side ever and anon, thus showing that his love will not permit him to forget her.

Much less will any woman who knows the ways of men make the grave mistake of attempting to monopolize her lover. A man likes plenty of rope, yet he should feel the pull now and then in order to let him understand that he cannot stray too far and be joyfully welcomed when he returns.

"If the links are slackening,
Cut the bond away!"

Flirting is reprehensible under any circumstances; it lowers the dignity of the man, destroys the delicacy of the woman. But for the woman who, betrothed to one man, deliberately sets herself to flirt with others, condemnation cannot be too strong. She deserves that her lover should "whistle her down the wind," as a thing too light to anchor his hopes of happiness to, not because of jealousy, but for the sake of his own self-respect. Somebody has said that most men look upon a flirt as a baby does a rattlebox, a toy to be played with and then discarded. A fool is the only man who will knowingly marry a flirt.

Undoubtedly, as Ovid said ages ago, "Love is the perpetual source of fear and anxieties," yet, also, it is the root of the greatest earthly bliss which humanity can know. Moreover, without faith love cannot endure. True love always is enthusiastic; a love must idealize the beloved. It may well be, and probably is, that the man or woman thus idealized is neither better nor worse than a million others, and no amount of loving will make them angelic, saving in the eyes of love. But mercifully for humanity. "There's nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so." And angels might be uncomfortable companions for ordinary men and women, "creatures far too bright and good for human nature's daily food."

It is an attribute of love to see the world through rose colored spectacles, and fortunately with most people the glamour fades gradually, leaving its blessed results behind it, even as the morning freshness is of benefit to plants through all the long, hot day. There can be no real love without a certain degree of personal magnetism, and where that exists there is an insight which reveals the perfect individual idea, which psychologists tell us underlies the imperfect human existence. When this insight comes to a man and a woman, it is their bounden duty to themselves and each other to allow nothing upon earth to cloud it. It is real. In all other directions enthusiasm may wane, but never in this. And whatever one may be to the rest of the world, it behooves one to live up to the ideal of the true heart which believes in and loves one utterly.

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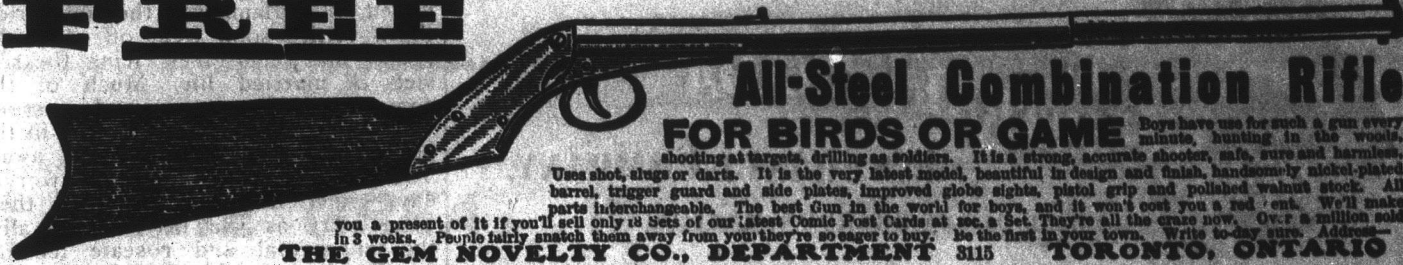
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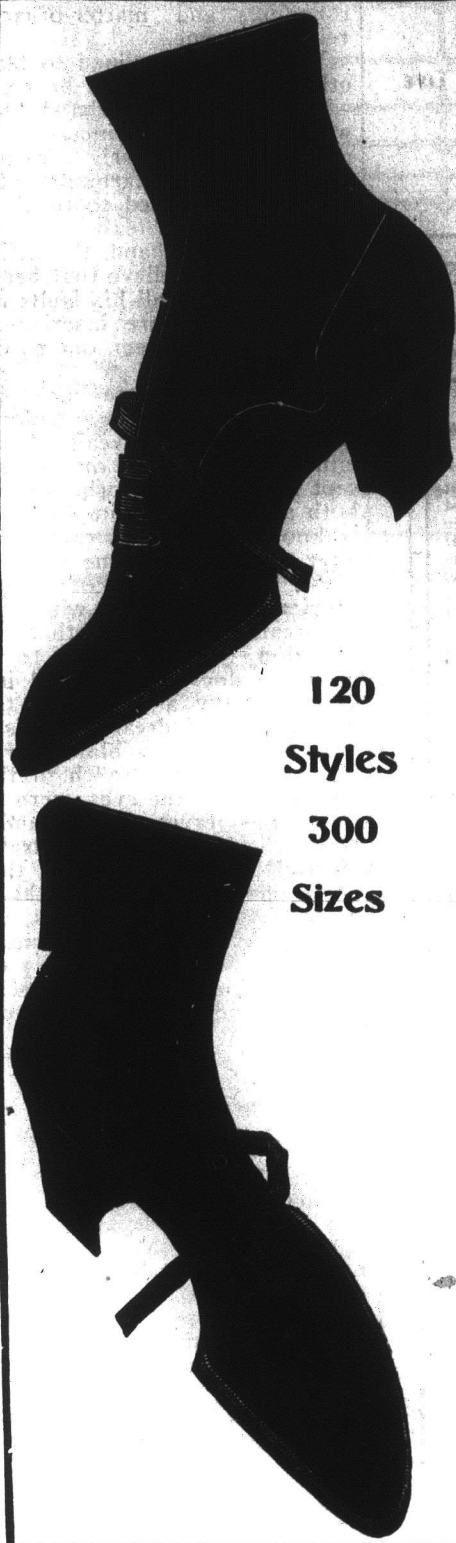
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