

parents' hard work that brought the money to give these graces. Long, hard days at the office desk for father and equally hard and longer hours for mother in the home. If the children were started in similar conditions to the parents and with the same handicaps, could they be better? I doubt it. Then, for their good, occasionally bring some such ideas to the mind of young America. Drive them home, and for the youth's benefit and for your own, drop the policy of self-effacement and its running mate, self-assertion, will find its proper place.—Cumberland Presbyterian.

Halifax, N. S.

#### GLADSTONE AS AN ORATOR.

In his prime, in a great debate when political parties were set in battle array, Gladstone's transcendent oratorical gifts had full play. There was marked contrast in his manner of answering a question addressed to him in his ministerial capacity. After purporting to make reply and taking some ten minutes to do it, he sat down, frequently leaving his interrogator and the House in a condition of dismayed bewilderment, hopelessly attempting to grope their way through the intricacies of the sonorous sentences they had listened to. If, as happened in expounding a bill or replying to a debate, he desired to make himself understood, he had no equal. His manner in speech-making was more strongly marked by action than that of his only rival, John Bright. He emphasized points by smiting the open palm of his left hand with sledge-hammer fist. Sometimes he, with gleaming eyes—"like a vulture's," as Mr. Lecky genially described them—pointed his forefinger straight at his adversary. In hottest moments he beat the brass-bound box with clamorous hand that occasionally drowned the point he strove to make. Sometimes with both hands raised above his head; often with left elbow leaning on the box, right hand with closed fist shaken at the head of an unoffending country gentleman on the back bench opposite; anon, standing half a step back from the table, left hand hanging at his side, right uplifted, so that he might with thumb-nail lightly touch the shining crown of his head, he trampled his way through the argument he assailed, as an elephant in an hour of aggravation rages through a jungle.—Henry W. Lucy, in Putnam's.

#### LAST DAYS.

Watch those wild lads who are sowing in wine that they reap in headache and degradation. Night after night they laugh with senseless glee, night after night inanities which pass for wit are poured forth; and daily the nerve and strength of each carouser grow weaker. Can you retrieve those nights? Never! But you may take the most shattered of the crew and assure him that all is not irretrievably lost; his weakened nerve may be steadied, his deranged gastric functions may gradually grow more healthy, his distorted views of life may pass away. So far, so good; but never try to persuade anyone that the past may be repaired, for that delusion is the very source and spring of the foul stream of lost days. Once impress upon any teachable creature the stern fact that a lost day is lost forever, once make that belief part of his being, and then he will strive to cheat death.—Joins in Our Social Armour.

We may be pretty certain that persons whom all the world treats ill deserve the treatment they get. The world is a looking glass and gives back to everyone the reflection of their own face. Frown at it and it will in turn look sourly upon you; laugh at it, and with it, and it is a kind and pleasant companion; and so let all take their choice.

#### MARRIED MANNERS.

"I am quite sure that Bob does not love me now," said a young wife tearfully the other day, "and I'm quite broken-hearted."

"That is a startling statement," said her older and more experienced friend. "What foundation have you for making it?"

"Oh, well," replied the young wife of barely a year, "of late he has become so rude, not in general, you know, only to me. He never thinks of offering me his chair now, of rising to open the door for me, and last week when we met accidentally in the street he did not attempt to raise his hat, and he used to be so polite. Of course," she added a trifle bitterly, "he is just as well bred as ever to other women; it is only his wife who is the exception."

"Only his wife," and this young wife's experience is that of many others and while to decide that a step down in deference and politeness means of necessity a lack of love is an exaggeration, yet there is no doubt the majority of husbands do not, after the honeymoon is over, shine as models of politeness, and in many cases this is the first insertion of the wedge of dissent, which in time assumes formidable proportions in matters matrimonial.

It may be the reaction from the condition of high pressure, in which the young man has been living during his period of courtship. Then, of course, he was scrupulously polite. Now, to use his own argument, why in all the world should "Maria" come to the conclusion that his love has evaporated simply because he has descended from the pedestal of unalloyed deference which he occupied in his prenuptial days? The cases are quite different. Then they only met occasionally. Now living together, he can't always be jumping up and down, opening doors, placing chairs, etc.

Listen, my dear young wife. Of course, you want your husband to be polite and deferential, but give way a little—lead, but don't drive, and you will win in the end. Don't quarrel with him over minor social sins. The world is a hard training school, and when a man returns at night with jaded nerves and waning energy this is not a time for a domestic lecture. Wait till he is in a reminiscent mood; then softly with your hand in his, whisper to him how flagrant breeches of politeness on his part vex and annoy you.

And you, little wife, are you quite blameless in the matter? Are you as careful, considerate and tactful as in the days when you were only his sweetheart? Bear and forbear are the two most potent factors in matrimonial etiquette.—Weekly Welcome.

#### EASTER FLOWERS.

Blooming to garland Easter,  
White as the drifted snows,  
Are the beautiful vestal lilies,  
The myriad-petaled rose,  
Carnations with hearts of fire.  
And the heather's fragrant spray—  
Blooming to garland Easter,  
And strew the King's highway.

Lete we had gloom and sorrow,  
But the word from Heaven forth  
Has scattered the clouds before it  
Like a trumpet blown from the north;  
And east and west and southward  
The flowers arise to-day  
To garland the blithe some Easter,  
And strew the King's highway.

Carry the flowers of Easter  
To the darkened house of woe,  
With their message of strength and comfort

Let the lilies of Easter go;  
Scatter the Easter blossoms  
In the little children's way;  
Let want and pain and weakness  
Be cheered on our Easter day.

#### BABY'S DOCTOR.

"With a box of Baby's Own Tablets on hand I feel just as safe as if I had a doctor in the house." This is the experience of Mrs. John Young, Auburn, Ont. Mrs. Young adds:—"I have used the Tablets for teething and other troubles of childhood and have never known them to fail." Hundreds of other mothers are just as enthusiastic in their praise. Colic, indigestion, diarrhoea, worms, constipation and other little ills are speedily cured by this medicine. It is absolutely safe—always does good—cannot possibly do harm, and you have the guarantee of a government analyst that the Tablets contain no opiate or poisonous soothing stuff. Sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

#### POPULAR EASTER CUSTOMS IN ALL LANDS.

From the earliest period of the Christian era down to the present day, Easter has always been celebrated with the greatest joy and counted the queen of festivals. The common name in the East was the "Paschal Feast," because kept at the same time as the Jewish Passover. In one of the Ancyran canons Easter is called "the great day." In the days of the primitive Christians, it was so peculiarly a time of exuberant gladness that Easter became known as *Dominica gaudii*—Sunday of joy.

Many and varied are the popular customs which attach to Easter in all lands. It was the practice early times among the Christians to salute each other on the morning of this day by exclaiming "Christ is risen," to which the person saluted replied, "Christ is risen indeed," or else "And hath appeared unto Simon"—a custom still in vogue in the Greek churches.

The observance of Easter at first covered a period of eight days, corresponding with the Jewish Paschal celebration and the heathen spring festivals. Gradually the length of the holiday was diminished, first to three days, then to two, and at last to a single day of religious devotion, as at the present time. During the original observance of eight days all labor ceased, law courts were closed, and all trade was suspended. Everybody had a vacation from work and worry. It was a favorite time for baptism. Alms-giving was a popular feature. And many slaves had cause for joy at Easter in receiving their freedom.—James A. Stewart, in Leslie's Weekly.

#### MAPLE SUGAR.

For the purpose of distributing a bulletin on the manufacture of pure maple syrup and sugar, the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, has undertaken to collect a list of maple sugar makers from each county in the Dominion. If by chance any names of sugar makers, or any interested in the manufacture, have been omitted from the list, or the copy already mailed has gone astray, the Department will be glad to send to all who apply, or to anyone who may wish to send in a list of names with P. O. addresses, a copy of the maple sugar bulletin just issued.

This bulletin not only deals with the manufacture of "Pure Maple Syrup and Sugar," but also explains the Sections of the Adulterated Act, having reference to maple syrup and sugar, and like ingredients, and gives a "Form of Warranty" which has to be signed by the sugar maker himself and handed on to the wholesaler, retailer and consumer, thus giving the purchaser assurance that the goods sold as "Pure Maple Syrup" or "Pure Maple Sugar," are what they are represented to be.

Contentment comes neither by culture nor by wishing; it is reconciliation with our lot, growing out of an inward superiority to our surroundings.