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Give the stream of Education Broader channel, bolder force; Hurl the stone of Persecution Out where'er they block its course; Seek for strength in self-exertion; Work, and still have faith to wait; Close the crooked gate to fortune; Make the road to honor straight.

Men are agents for the futuro-As they work, so ages win Either harvest of advancement, Or the product of their sin! Follow out true cultivation-Widen education's plan; From the majesty of Nature Teach the majesty of MAN.

"NOT AT HOME." As the advocates of truth, it is the duty of all men to oppose everything like equivocation and deceit; but it is believed that in their zeal many persons attach a degree of blame to the expression at the head of this article, of which it is not worthy. It is a very general habit among people in fashionable life to order their servants to tell those who call upon them that they are "not at home," when they are in the house. This has been called by some, telling an untruth, and is therefore thought criminal; but is it so? It must be admitted that, according to the ordinary meaning of the words, the import of the phrase here used is, that the person is away from home—but can it mean nothing else? All language is arbitrary. Men have agreed on certain sounds to convey certain ideas, - and were it not for such agreement all names of things are alike applicable, so far as any resemblance goes. A stone might as well have been called a tree, or a house, as a stone; and if such had been the will of those among whom the term is used, the word would have been just as well understood as it is at present. In communities, and in classes of communities, it is competent for the members thereof to decide what meanings they will attach to expressions; and provided it be done by common consent, there need be no misapprehension in the matter. Now, it happens that among people of fashion, "Not at home" is understood to mean, not prepared to see company, or not visible to others beside the family. Such being the case, then, what misrepresentation can there be in a servant's using a phrase which, by agreement between the parties, is understood on such occasions to have a particular meaning that does not attach under other circumstances? If there be deception, on whom is the deception practised? Certainly not on the visitor, who, if called upon and not ready to see company, would have given orders that precisely the same phrase should be used. The expression is used among persons who give to it a particular meaning, and being | Woollens, Gents' Furnishing Goods, &c understood in the sense intended, no harm is done. It may, however, be said that all visitors are not fashionable people, and that they are led to believe that the person sought for is out of doors, when in truth he or she may be at the head of the stairs listening. Here is a different case, and therefore it stands on a different footing. If a tradesman calls at a house on business, and is told that the party is "not at home," when he or she is in the house, there is a deception, simply because the tradesman is not privy to the agreement whereby the particular meaning is affixed, and cannot, therefore be acquainted with the usage. This, it may be said, is splitting hairs, and creating a difference where no difference exists; but the same thing might be said the every day expression, Dear sir. Everybody knows that this term, however generally used, is not to be taken in its literal sense. It is a mode of speaking in more than common politeness, and the part on who would attach to it anything like endagment must be ignorant, indeed, of the world's usages. After all, this is a small matter; but there are so many thousands of deceptions practised that there is no use in conjuring up one where it does not exist. If there be any one so fastidious -and there are many such as to hesitate in giving orders of the kind named, let it be borne in mind that circumstances alter cases; and let the servant be taught to ke the distinction between persons on

> n are so improvident that mything but late hours.

ill thus be put fairly to rights,

be no longer a misconcep-

and those on visits of courtesy.



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