

BRIC-À-BRAC.

MANY men think that an offence can always be nullified by a defence.

It is easy to run down the accomplishments of your neighbour, but harder to run ahead of them.

A good boy may not become a handsome man, but a nice bonnet surely becomes a pretty woman.

But few men can handle a hot lamp-chimney, and say there is no place like home at the same time.

A little girl being asked by her grandfather where cotton grew, replied, 'In old gentlemen's ears.'

Cosmetics are to the face what affectation is to the manners; they impose on few, and disgust many.

A conscience is like a corner lot. Everybody would like to have it, but few are willing to pay the price.

It is a great deal easier to build castles in the air when you are young, than it is to live in them when you are old.

The young man who invites his mother-in-law to go up in the balloon should be watched. There's murder in his head.

Time is infinitely long, and each day is a vessel into which a great deal may be poured, if one will actually fill it up.

If a man can be happy and contented in his own company, he will generally be good company for others.

A little explained, a little endured, a little passed over as a foible, and lo! the ragged atoms will fit like a smooth mosaic.

An old lady says she hears every day of civil engineers, and wonders if there is no one to say a civil word for conductors.

Evil can make promises, but it has no power to keep them. Virtue, on the other hand, always gives a little more than is due.

It is not the number of promises a man makes, but the number he keeps, which gives him a position among respectable people.

A familiar instance of colour-blindness is that of a man taking a brown silk umbrella and leaving a green gingham in its place.

There is no good in this world without an accompaniment of evil. The revival of business has increased the sale of accordions.

Wisdom and truth are immortal; but cunning and deception, the meteors of the earth, after glittering for a moment, must pass away.

A poor woman who had been supplied with bad tea by the grocer, said it was just as the Scripture said, 'To the poor all things are poor.'

A young lady, being asked by a boring theologian which party in the Church she was most in favour of, replied that she preferred a wedding party.

No life is wasted unless it endeth in sloth, dishonesty, or cowardice. No success is worthy of the name unless it is won by honest industry and brave breasting of the waves of fortune.

The poor old negro preacher was more than half right when he said, 'Bredder-in, if we could all see into our own hearts as God does, it would mos' skeer us to death.'

A man went into a butcher's shop, and finding the owner's wife in attendance, in the absence of her husband, thought he would have a joke at her expense, and said: 'Madame, can you supply me with a yard of pork?' 'Yes, sir,' said she. And then, turning to a boy, she added: 'James, give that gentleman three pig's feet.'

All should select some noble aim, philanthropic, religious or otherwise; because we have splendid opportunities of reaching our desired end. We have means every day of getting good and doing good. One of these is by books which we may read and thus improve in mental culture. Another is through living characters, whose presence is an inspiration.