

expediency or policy, is the compass and rudder that guide a *gentleman*. A gentleman is a man

" Whose armor is his honest thought,
And simple truth his utmost skill."

A gentleman is never found at the street corners, in the saloon or playhouse, at the loafers' rendezvous, or on the idlers' promenade ; for he turns his steps in the highway of noble aims and earnest work ; for he is not too lazy to work, nor too proud to be poor. He is willing to eat only what he has earned and wear what he has paid for.

"Lies are an ugly soot from the smoke of the pit," says Ruskin, "and it were better that our hearts should be swept clean of them, without our care as to which is largest or blackest." Lying, in all its various forms, is loathsome to every pure-minded man ; therefore no gentleman permits a lie to pass his lips. A gentleman speaks as he thinks, believes as he pretends, acts as he professes, and performs his promises. His word is his bond. Duplicity of life is quite as bad as verbal falsehood, for actions speak as loud as words. A gentleman is never found just on the verge of truth. Diplomacy, expediency, mental reservation, equivocation, moral dodging, twisting a statement so as to convey a false impression, a serpent-wise shirking of the truth and getting out of moral back-doors in order to hide ones real opinions, are all different forms of lying ; a kind which a Frenchman once described as "walking round about the truth." A gentleman never wears the name, Mr. Facing-both-ways. He divests himself of all prejudices, sophistry, subterfuge, chicanery, and disguise. He represents things as they are. A man is untruthful when he makes pretensions to what he is not, when he assumes merits which he does not possess. Truth is the manliest of virtues ; it is a chief stone in the foundation of all true manliness and personal excellence. A gentleman is always himself.

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