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Mr. JOHN MORLEY on the advantages of possessing an Encyclopædia.

"We may all agree in lamenting that there are so many houses—even some of considerable social pretension—where you will not find a good atlas, a good dictionary, or a good cyclopædia of reference. What is still more lamentable, in a good many more houses where these books are, they are never referred to or opened. That is a very discreditable fact, because I defy anybody to take up a single copy of the 'Times' newspaper and not come upon something in it upon which, if his interest in the affairs of the day were as active, intelligent, and alert as it ought to be, he would consult an atlas, dictionary, or cyclopædia of reference."

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Very Convenient

A young lady who had returned from a tour through Italy with her father, remarked that her father had liked all the Italian cities, but especially did he like Venice.

"Ah, Venice, to be sure," said the friend to whom she was relating some of the adventures of their trip. "I can readily understand that your father would prefer Venice, with its gondolas, and St. Mark's, and Michael Angelo's—"

"Oh, no," said the young lady, "it wasn't that. But he could sit in the hotel, you know, and fish out of the window."

Satisfied Them All

Aunt Panthea Brooks lived in a little New Hampshire village very many years without quarrelling with any one, and was so thoroughly liked by every one for miles around that her popularity excited the interest of a summer visitor.

"Aunt Panthea," he asked, "how is it that you keep on such good terms with every one, while they are all quarrelling among themselves?"

"Well," said Aunt Panthea, "being as you aren't to stay here long I'll tell you. When I go down the street I meet Jason Purdy, and he says, 'Why, Panthea, how well you look!'

"'I'm glad you think so,' I say, smiling at him.

"'Next minute up comes Ezzy Drauc.

"'Well, now, Panthea,' he says, 'how poorly you are looking this year.'

"'My land, Ezzy,' I say, 'how quick you are to notice those things!'

"'So it is with everything. Those who like to think one way, I let 'em think it, and those who like to think the other, I let 'em think it."

Who can deny that Aunt Panthea had discovered a comfortable philosophy of life?

His Method

Doctor Frank, who was the joker of the family, was visiting his sister.

"I dare say you don't approve of that dish, doctor," said a guest, pointing to some iced cucumbers.

"Not at all," was the solemn reply. "It is absolutely unfit to be eaten by any one who has not the digestion of an ostrich."

"Dear me, Frank," said his sister, uneasily, "then you wouldn't advise me to give the children any?"

"They should not be allowed even to smell them!"

"Well, if you're so serious about it, I don't believe I shall venture to take any myself. Mrs. B., will you have some?"

"No, thank you, I think not," said the guest in some alarm. "I always have eaten them, but you know I've a long journey to take to-morrow, and I can't afford to be ill."

"Then, since everybody refuses," said Doctor Frank, "I'll take the dish, if you please. I'm extravagantly fond of cucumbers, and I find this method ensures me a large supply."

And after that day everybody took cucumbers and abused the perfidious doctor.

A Suggestive Situation

George Ade, automobiling in Indiana, dined at a country hotel among a roomful of ministers. The ministers, who were holding a convention in the town, were much amused when Mr. Ade's identity was disclosed to them. One of them said during the dinner: "How does a humorist of your stamp feel, sir, in such reverend company as this?" "I feel," said Ade, promptly, "like a lion in a den of Daniels."


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These three books are well printed on good paper, and the cloth binding is of the best quality. In fact, we do not remember getting from England any books that are so attractive in appearance, and interesting in subject matter as volumes which have just come to hand.

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