

**Caladium Esculentum.**

Variegated leaved plants are quite the fashion at this time, and are becoming more popular every year; they produce a fine effect when planted in oval or circular beds; a bed of them well arranged as to color is a most gorgeous sight, equal to any display of flowers.

One of the most beautiful of the ornamental foliaged plants for planting on the lawn, or as a centre for oval or circular beds, are caladiums; they will grow five feet high with immense leaves of a light green color, beautifully veined with various colors. They are bulbous roots and must be taken up with the first frosts; the bulbs should be kept in dry sand in dry temperature. The oldest and best known variety is the (*Caladium Esculentum*) (see cut); the leaves are of immense size, often two feet long and six inches broad; it will thrive when other tender varieties fail.

**Simplicity.**

The more we see of the world, the more we are satisfied that simplicity is as inseparably the companion of true genius as it is of true greatness. We never yet knew a truly great man—a man who overtopped his fellow-men—who did not possess a certain playful, almost infantine simplicity. True greatness never struts on stilts, or plays the king upon the stage. Conscious of its elevation, and knowing in what that elevation consists, it is happy to act its part like common men in the common amusements and business of mankind. It is not afraid of being undervalued for its humility.

A man who is thus fearless of letting himself down to the level of his fellow-men, in the ordinary amusement and relaxations of life, whatever elevation he may have reached, must possess that innate consciousness of genius which is itself sufficient evidence of its own existence. Those who are afraid of being undervalued or despised for mixing with their fellow-creatures are of the ordinary, every-day race of men, whom chance has made great, and who, like the inmates of unfinished palaces, shut their windows lest people may come nigh enough to detect the abject poverty within.

**FACTS ABOUT FOOD.**—There is an old saying that what is one's meat may be another's poison, and how often we are reminded of this as we see the likes and dislikes of people for the same articles of food, and learn the reasons therefor. Strawberries, that are so delicious to almost everybody, are poison to many. A prominent member of the bar told us that one strawberry would poison him to such an extent that it would require weeks for him to get over it. An elderly lady of our acquaintance will almost faint away at the sight of a cheese, and wherever she goes this article is banished from the table. Shell-fish are pernicious to many, poisonous and offensive. We have read in a late medical journal a number of instances of those antipathies confirming our own observation. Some persons cannot eat a lobster salad without its having a very curious effect upon their complexion. A lady indulged at supper time in a salad of this kind, and upon her return to the ball-room her face and neck immediately became covered with spots, obliging her to retire. A medical friend tells us that eating veal gives a lady of his acquaintance the nettle-rash, and that orange-peel has produced great nervous excitement. Figs, again, give rise in some people to a sensation like the tickling movement of oats upon the palate.

Dean Swift said:—"It is with narrow-souled people as it is with narrow-necked bottles; the less they have in them, the more noise they make in pouring it out."

Smythe was telling some friends about a wonderful parrot. "Why," said he, "that parrot cries 'Stop thief' so naturally that every time I hear it I always stop. Now, hang it, what are you all laughing about?"

**An Egyptian Wedding.**

An American lady residing in Cairo, writes as follows, descriptive of an Egyptian wedding:

Hessian Bey was to take to his harem one of the belles of Heluan. Heluan is a watering-place that the Vice-King wishes shall eclipse the famous bathing places of Europe. It is a little green island not far from Cairo; it is dotted with gleaming white houses, in the midst of an immense glittering desert bordered by the Nile.

The women of Egypt look upon the place as a sort of Eden, where they can purchase all sorts of bijouterie and Parisian nothings, and spend their pocket-money as recklessly as their more civilized sisters across the waters. But to return to the marriage. Through the courtesy of Hessian Bey, I was a wedding guest. He escorted me to the door of the bride's house, and there left me. Placing my right hand over my left upon my breast, according to custom, I entered, and the women who guarded the door conducted me to the room prepared for me. I finished my toilet quickly and went into the saloon, and soon after my entrance, the bride, with all her attendants, came from the path and entered the room. It was a bright-colored picture. First came the slaves and servants of the house; in their right hands they held wax-candles, in their left a green basin which contained henna for coloring the nails; the bride followed with her guests. She wore a creamy embroidered silk, with a violet-blue over-dress that was fast-

**Lending a Pair of Legs.**

Sometimes we ask people to "lend a hand," and sometimes we hear them say, "lend me your eyes." Here is a story about a boy who lent a pair of legs just to accommodate.

Some boys were playing at base ball in a pretty, shady street. Among their number was a lame little fellow, seemingly about twelve years old—a pale, sickly-looking child, supported on two crutches, and who evidently found much difficulty in walking, even with such assistance. The lame boy wished to join the game; for he did not seem to see how much his infirmity would be in his own way, and how much it would hinder the progress of such an active sport as base ball. His companions, good naturedly enough, tried to persuade him to stand on one side and let another take his place; none of them hinted that he would be in the way; but they all objected for fear he would hurt himself.

"Why, Jimmy," said one at last, "you can't run, you know."

"O, hush!" said another—The tallest boy in the party—"Never mind, I'll run for him, and you can count it for him," and he took his place by Jimmy's side prepared to act. "If you were like him," he said, aside to the other boys, "you wouldn't like to be told of it all the time."

How many times loving hearts will find a way to lend their powers and members to the aged, the poor, the sick, and the weak.

**Toasts and Sentiments.**

May the honest heart never know distress.

May care be a stranger where fortune resides.

May our prudence secure us friends, but enable us to live without their assistance.

May sentiment never be sacrificed by the tongue of deceit.

May our happiness be sincere and our joys lasting.

May the smiles of conjugal felicity compensate the frowns of fortune.

May the tear of sensibility never cease to flow.

May the road of preferment be found by none but those who deserve it.

May the liberal hand find free access to the purse of plenty.

May the impulse of generosity never be checked by the power of necessity.

May we always forget when we forgive an injury.

May the feeling heart possess the fortune the miser abuses.

May we draw upon content for the deficiencies of fortune.

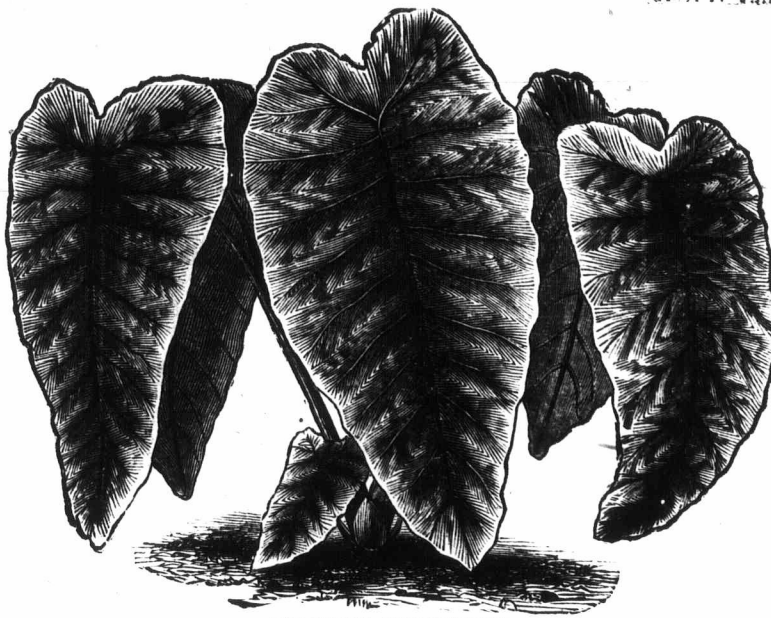
May hope be thy physician when calamity is the disease.

May the single marry, and marry happy.

**Oatmeal Diet.**

Undoubtedly one of the most healthful and nourishing articles of diet is oatmeal. When properly cooked and eaten with sugar and cream it forms a dish which most people relish better than meat for breakfast, and is very much cheaper. Liebig has chemically demonstrated that oatmeal is almost as nutritious as the very best English beef, and that it is richer than wheaten bread in the elements that go to form bone and muscle. Professor Forbes, of Edinburgh, during some twenty years, measured the breadth and height, and also tested the strength of both arms and joints, of the students of the University—a very numerous class and of various nationalities, drawn to Edinburgh by the fame of his teaching. He found that in height, breadth of chest and shoulders, and strength of arms and loins, the Belgians were at the bottom of the list; a little above them the English; and the highest of all the Scotch, and Scotch-Irish from Ulster, who, like the natives of Scotland, are fed in their early years at least one meal a day of good oatmeal porridge.

"Is that the second bell?" inquired a gentleman of a colored porter. "No, sah," answered the porter, "dat am de second ringin' ov de fust bell. We hab but one bell in dis 'stablishment."



CALADIUM ESCULENTUM.

ened at the waist by a girdle set with diamonds; the little arched feet were encased in pearl-embroidered slippers; the little cap upon her head set with precious stones, and her long, black, shining hair rippled over her shoulders, half-concealed by a gold tissue veil. When she was seated, they painted her nails, the palms of her hands, her feet an orange yellow, and then bound them in white linen. After this operation she retired from sight, but the guests remained, drank coffee, ate confections, and cakes, smoked dainty cigars and watched the dance of the bayaderes, listened to the songs of the almahs and chattered as only a crowd of women can do over an approaching wedding. The next day, the day of the wedding, the bride was led under a purple and gold canopy to the house of the bridegroom. We followed and went up the stone stairs to the vestibule of the harem. Here coffee and fine confections were served. Then the bride's guests returned to her home to await the arrival of the bridegroom's mother, who leaves the house when he enters to claim his bride. And this ends the ceremony.

"You would be very pretty indeed," said a gentleman patronisingly to a young lady, "if your eyes were only a little larger."—"My eyes may be very small, sir, but such people as you don't fill them!"

A young lady about to be married insisted on having a certain clergyman to perform the ceremony, saying, "He always throws so much feeling into the thing; and I wouldn't give a fig to be married unless it could be done in a style of gushing rhapsody!"