

of the hand, and a welcome word, possess wonderful power of attraction, and a potency to clear away the murky fogs of gloom and indifference. Don't try to impress others with the amount of your wisdom held in reserve under cover of noticeable reticence that says: "I am loaded, look out for me when I fire." Be careful of the feelings of others, and do your utmost to generate a spirit of concord and harmony. If you feel cross and crabbed, keep it to yourself. You will not get relief by endeavoring to divide it with others.

Remember that the world and the court room were not made to be glum and sad in, but were meant to be bright and cheerful. There is a time for all things, and one of the best of these times is when you can gather with your brethren, and with wit and story add to the sweets of life. To laugh was one of the first things that nature did after she threw off the cloud of darkness—"the earth smiled in the sunlight."—*Canadian Forester*.

A Good Investment.

In a sermon upon "The Value of the Christian Religion," a Presbyterian minister recently illustrated the value of Life Insurance in these words:

"It seems to me to be the privilege and duty of every man who has others dependent upon him, and who may not be able to provide for them in any other way, to insure his life. When it shall be done, if he has been wise enough to have ascertained, with reasonable certainty, that the business association to which he has committed this important trust is a safe and reliable one, he will not have to wait until death is near to know that 'it pays' to be insured. From my point of view, it begins to pay immediately, and it continues to pay each day of his life; not in gold and silver, perhaps, but in that which ought to be infinitely more precious to every husband and father—the assurance that if he should be suddenly called away from those so dear to him, they would not be left entirely to the cold charities of a hard and unsympathetic world. His thought, as he leaves his home each morning to engage in the duties of the busy world, that he has done what he could to protect his loved ones, ought to clear his brain, give buoyancy to his step, and cheer to a weary life. Such a man, too, is an honorable man—he is keeping the promise he made at the marriage altar, even though it may involve much self-denial."

Ideal Home and Family.

"The first great essential of the ideal home and the ideal family are constant love, confidence, devotion, unselfishness, willingness to spend in the service of one another. The ideal home is one where the children shall say: 'When we marry and have homes of our own, we wish to love and be loved as our father and mother love each other.' It is where the sons are taught respect for all women, by the deference and kindness of their father to their mother; it is where

daughters learn mother's patient example, how beautiful a thing wifely and motherly affection is, learn the beauty of daily, unselfish devotion to the good of all. It is one where the atmosphere of love and kindness is so all pervading, that it softens every privation, ennobles every humble duty, stimulates constantly all noble and unselfish aims."—*Pythian Bunner*.

"Four Feet on the Fender"

Was Dr. Holmes' witty answer to the question: "What is happiness?" As brevity is the soul of wit, this answer means more than it says. It means married life—the home and all the joys that spring out of home life. It means affection and trust between husband and wife, faithfulness to the duties that grow out of such a relation, sympathy and companionship, unselfishness and patience in the cares and trials that come from differences of temperament, from ill health and from misfortune. It means life insurance, for the protection and support of the wife, who may be left to struggle with the cares of life alone—perhaps with helpless children clinging to her skirts. How a man can put his feet on the fender with perfect satisfaction when he is uninsured is one of the mysteries of human life. One would suppose the first thing a man would think of—after the engagement ring—would be the insurance policy. Perhaps it is because he is so absorbed in life, and its joys that are to be, that he does not think of death. But the really brave and true man ought to think of it and to do all it becomes a man in his situation to remember and to do. "Four feet on the fender" includes life insurance.—*The New York News Letter*.

To the Bicyclist Bending Forward.

(Robert Grant in Harper's Weekly.)

O, youth, who, bending forward, rides apace,
With melancholy stamped upon your face,
Pursuing pleasure with a frenzied eye
Yet mocked by her, however fast you fly,
Are you aware how horrible you look?
No guy invented for a picture book
Was ever a more painful sight than thou,
Lord of the bent back and the anxious brow.

O, sit up straight and try to wear a smile!
Be less intent to pile up mile on mile.
Enjoy the prospect as you glide along,
The trees, the sunshine, and the robin's song,
To us who view you scorching day by day,
Bent on your bar in such an awkward way,
You are the homeliest thing on earth, my lad.
O, sit up straight, and make the landscape glad!

The spirit of Charity in the human soul is the purest and best of all the graces. It gives, without expecting a return of the gift. Like the rain, it falls on just and unjust alike. It does not stop to investigate the reasons why some suffering son of man has been brought to the verge of starvation, but gives, asking no questions. True Charity is never impoverished by giving nor enriched by withholding. It is the true image of God in the soul, for God is love.—*Lodge Record*.