

speak ; perhaps it may not be as amiably accepted as you intended it, then both are offended, but always speak rather in praise of any person or thing, than the contrary.

Although your diary should be held, strictly speaking, "private," do not commence or write it with that impression. It must frequently be seen when you are called away hurriedly ; many will be curious enough to peruse it, and, should it thus fall into strange hands, you have the satisfaction of knowing that in it you have nothing that you do not mind being made public, and that all you have said therein, as a general rule, has been in praise and in favour. Truth should be the grand basis of your diary. I do not mean, by truth, the contrary to falsehood ; but I mean that incidents should be noted carefully and originally, as they are *seen*. They can always be expanded or embellished afterwards, if necessary.

Never let your journal be one day in arrear ; if you do, some more interesting occurrence may take place, and all idea of the former vanish.

Your temper and patience will, perhaps, sometimes be tested by those not possessing your determination to keep a journal ; and you may be taunted by such remarks as "At it again," "Put me down for a pint," "Button your pockets," and many others. Take them all in good part—you will have the advantage by-and-bye.

There is no doubt a great deal of this advice is quite unnecessary, and I merely offer it, as I felt I required it, at times, myself, and is really now only intended for the *juvenile beginners*.