

It is well that "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." Eneas, of old, in a neat after dinner speech at the Banquet given by his affable hostess, the regent of the city whose circuit was denoted by a bull's hide, gave utterance to the thought that:—Perhaps thereafter it would delight himself and comrades to remember the things then transpiring. The idea was based upon knowledge of humanity, that it is more prone to dwell out of the present, than to enjoy its pleasures to the fullest advantage, though the things of to-day serve as food for reminiscence in the unknown future.

The maxim of the Epicureans was "whilst we live let us live," but unfortunately the old school is nearly extinct. The disciples of to-day have degenerated, and now synonymous with epicure, are gourmand, voluptuary, and sensualist.

The advice of the wise is to seize the present hour,—the past is fled. No longer can a tangible enjoyment be taken out of it; and who can forecast the future? who can tell its joys or its sorrows? How little does it take to divert the tenor of life from its accustomed channel.

Life is made up of minor details, the striking events only occur as the conspicuous objects of the picture. Take from it its background, its light and shade, its sky and water, and what was a landscape, becomes a mere representation of the single prominence that arrested the attention. The life has gone out of it.

What does experience teach us? To look for our pleasure and enjoyment in the little things of to-day. To give over hopelessly waiting for a condensation of joy that may never come. To give over comparing present circumstances with those of the past, whose ghosts alone remain to haunt us, and to call up that which is invidious.

And yet experience has ever yet played but a minor part to human nature.

Human nature is innate. Experience is acquired. It is seldom that the acquired principles predominate over the intuitive ones for our good, though the reverse is the case when the evil propensities play the parts.

It is not intended to be insinuated that the past should be buried in oblivion, or that the affairs of the future should be devoid of speculation. Such a doctrine would make man but a machine, and would rob him of all happiness, for a mind deprived either of memory or imagination, is but the mind of a dolt, incapable of enjoyment either mentally or materially, unmoved by either sorrow or joy, and utterly incapable to fill the assigned position of a social animal.

Rather let the idea be conveyed, that the mind should neither dwell continually upon the happy events of the past, whether they be few or many, nor should it give up present happiness, in the contemplation of a mirage-like future created by the joyful anticipations of hope.

Unfortunately we live, too much in a world of our own creation, rather than in the world that has been created for us. CREON.

The majority in Congress speak in silver monosyllables.—*Norristown Herald*.

Yes, there are a good many silly-bills introduced in Congress.

## FASHION FLAMBEAUX.

[For the Torch.]

A late and pretty device for a lace brooch is in the shape of the point of a peacock's feather, the colors being outlined with rubies, emeralds and diamonds. The model to be worked upon is, in the first place, anything but humble, and unnecessary to add, the novelty itself is scarcely suited to those of humble means.

One of the most stylish of the new spring wraps has large sleeves, and is to fit closely to the figure. This off-spring of Dame Fashion has not been named as yet.

White, so long known as the emblem of innocence, is the most fashionable of all colors in Paris and particularly in New York. For ball dresses, opera cloaks and dress bonnets, it is universally preferred to any of the gaudy tints in vogue heretofore. And yet we doubt whether this age or season is more conspicuous for its innocence than those which have gone before!

White Swiss scarfs, with ends of lace, are in fashion again.

The low Princess dress is now very frequently laced at the side, thus making it a problem worthy of solution, how the wearer of such a dress manages to get into it. Soft materials, such as China crepe, Indian crepon, and Bagdad silk, are preferred to all other fabrics, that is in the making up of those low Princess dresses.

Another new material for spring wear, composed of both silk and wool, is called lophopore velvet, because the silk cast upon the surface has as long a pile as velvet and the colors are as rich and varied as those in the feathers of the lophopore. It is always nice to know the names of those novelties, as it is a great help in conversation.

The most stylish belts are now often made of gold and silver braids, and some young ladies fasten them with bouquets of flowers. This latter part of the fashion is not universally observed, however.

The latest thing out in the way of millinery is a bunch of bananas, ornamenting a bonnet of New York design. It seems absurd, and yet why should bananas be any more out of place than the artificial grapes and cherries which are so commonly used for decorating hats and bonnets?

It is not quite so fashionable now for our people to talk "fire," as to talk about moving, building and furnishing. Fashions change so often though, that we can not prophesy with any degree of certainty what topic will be most *en vogue* by the time the real Spring arrives or the June roses blow.

In the "far Beyond," that is the big cities where fashions are manufactured and started on their career, gentlemen are wearing mother of pearl buttons on their overcoats, and the funny papers are waxing very sarcastic in commenting upon the fact. We have looked for specimens of the fashion on our *Broad*, or we should say *narrow*, way, but failed to see them.

A San Francisco paper says that the rage for gloves in that city is assuming proportions thoroughly alarming to husbands. One lady is reported to have a pair of gloves which reach very nearly to her shoulder, and are fastened with diamond buttons, graduated in size from the wrist upwards. Three other matrons attending the Stanford reception, had respectively gloves with forty-two pearls, thirty-four small diamond buttons valued at \$1,000, and three large diamonds valued at \$500 each, thus making the pair cost over \$3,000. At this rate the contemptuous simile of being thrown away "like an old glove" will lose much of its point and pungency, old gloves being valuable, if for no other reason than relics.

Ornamental pins are again very much worn in the hair, particularly those with large tortoise-shell heads; some also are made of cut jet, others of light tortoise-shell, of filigree silver, and of coral.

Simplicity as to the arrangement of the hair is becoming the order of the day, and, we even hear, that false hair is to go out of fashion altogether.

## STAGE SPARKS.

**LITTLE AND LONG.**—Mr. Little and Miss Eliza Long are playing in Brooklyn, *The Dramatic News* says, "Miss Long, in 'East Lynne' deserves special mention for good acting."

**JALE BEIDE** is business manager at the Comique, Washington.

*The Dramatic News* says, "Our Boarding House" drew fair houses, at the Arch, in Philadelphia, last week. A *five* house is very appropriate for "Our Boarding House."

**DE CORDOVA** lectured in Patterson, New Jersey, on the 1st January.

**MR. McDOWELL** sustained the part of Baron Lambick in the "Angel of Midnight" at the Boston Mus. in such good style as to receive highly laudatory press notices.

**W. J. STANTON** is playing with Pauline Markham in burlesque at the Howard.

**KATIE PUTNAM** is in Chicago practising feats of jugglery to be used in her new play.

**Louis Aldrich** and **Dora Goldthwaite** are playing in "The Danites" at DeBar, St. Louis.

**Mrs. Macauley**, whose maiden name was Rachel Johnston, has been presented with a costly silver tea service, by the ladies of Louisville. Edwin Booth sent her a telegram last week requesting her support in some of his specialties in New York.

**FRANK ROCHE** is at Baldwin's San Francisco.

**"The Octoron,"** with J. W. Lanerger, J. H. Burns, Lillie Eldridge, and Louisa Morse all St. John favorites in the east, was played at the Boston Globe Theatre on Monday night.

**ANOTHER** Baby show in Music Hall, Boston, next May, under the management of Mr. Park. The managers of these shows should give parents a longer notice.

**MISS GERTRUDE KELLOGG** made her debut as a reader at Music Hall, Boston, on Tuesday last.

**ELIZA WEATHERSBY'S** Burlesque Company, with W. H. Whitcomb as business manager, is making a very successful New England tour.

**MISS LOUISE POMEROY** has added "Nancy Sykes" to her list of impersonations.

What is the best kind of a trap to set for catching a thief? A steal trap.

**Hugh Dever** died on the 30th inst., at his residence No. 1902 Hilbert street, in the 102d year of his age.—*Ec.*

**Bagnell**, can't Hugh en-dever to get off some "aged" joke on the above item?

**Wilkins** of the *Whitchall Times*, says the proudest day in a woman's life is her first son day.—*Danbury News*. In case of twins, wouldn't her first Two's day be the proudest?—*St. John, N. B. Torch*. Pro-bub-ly.—*Whitchall Times*.

Somebody has sent the editor of *The Torch* a life preserver as a present. The idea! Why, bless you, that editor never goes near the water, and the last thing he would think of would be letting water come near him.—*Turner's Falls Reporter*.

Haven't you seen women, who could stay up all night, making red flannel night caps for the young Heathens and work all day making "antimacassers," and "whatnots" for a Bazaar, who hadn't time to sew buttons on their husbands' shirts, or put a patch on the seams of little Johnny's pants?

**Mrs. Misallot** is over-anxious to know whether Sergeant Bates and Corporal Punishment were in the same company.—*N. Y. News*. If she knew General Intelligence she would not ask such a question.—*Norristown Herald*. From Private Information we heard something, but cannot repeat it.