

Mr. Slick was an outrageous and successful flirt, and could blarney like an Irishman. He believed with Byron that impudence—"brisk confidence" the poet calls it—was the quality most effective with woman. He gives a philosophic reason for this belief in "Nature and Human Nature" (c. 14):—"She didn't know whether it was impudence or admiration;—but when a woman arbitrates on a case she is interested in she always gives an award in her own favor." For sour and sulky females, however, he approved of stern discipline. He even once whipped a shrew. Women, he asserted, require "the identical same treatment" as horses. "Encourage the timid ones, be gentle and steady with the fractious ones, but lather the sulky ones like blazes." To this resemblance of women to horses in disposition, and the desirability of treating them alike, he recurs several times. In "The Season Ticket," Jemmy, a London hearse-driver declares—and the sentiment certainly seems more natural in an Englishman of the lower classes than in a typical Yankee—that "it's better to have the wife under the whip than on the lead, and to have her well under command than for her to take the bit into her mouth and play the devil." And still another of our author's characters, in the last chapter of this his latest work, argues, in favor of divorce, that if one may swap or change an unmanageable horse, *a fortiori* one should be allowed to get rid of an unmanageable wife. For, he says, "a horse don't pretend to be better than it is; it is no hypocrite * * But a woman aint so easy judged of, I can tell you."

Yet Mr. Slick is not an habitual detractor of the