

An Old-Fashioned Essence

spirit and the unlighted mind by unmistakable signs; the eyes grow hard, the mouth unsmiling or mean, the brow sullen or supercilious, and the general mien becomes furtive, dejected, or querulous. But the kindly spirits who put love and care into the daily practice of life, increase in loveliness as the years go by, and age only lends them a more indubitable and magic comeliness. Their beauty is not the mere insensate mask of appearance, whose flawless hues must pale, its texture change, its lines droop, beginning to wilt even in the moment of maturity, like a soulless flower; it is the subtle and registering simulacrum of the ever-growing intelligence and spirit, whose loving thoughts and feelings it reveals from moment to moment in valuable and memorable expressions of loveliness. The plainest features grow more comely with years, through habits of loveliness, — by being made continually the instruments of sincere and kindly lives.

Of all the qualities that can enlist our en-