

All these matters seem so small and unimportant when a child is young, but if you will take the trouble to teach the children when little, they never will disgrace you by their bad table manners as they grow older.

If one of the elder members of the family arrives at the table a little late, the children should rise, and stand until he or she is seated.

With very little children this is hard to carry out, but you must begin the rule as early as possible.

This is, of course, especially necessary with the boys. They should be taught not only to rise when their elders come to the table, but when their sisters or sisters' friends come to the table, after the family is seated.

The best way, of course, is to make it a rule that every one should go to and leave the table at the same time, but occasionally it is unavoidable for some of the household or guests to be late.

It is also a wise plan to encourage them to write their notes of thanks themselves.

However childish the note may be expressed, it is far more acceptable to the one who receives it, than an effusive one written by the mother, besides which it teaches them good manners, and instructs them early how to express themselves well.

Children should always be taught to treat any one beneath them socially with respect and consideration.

A birthday is usually the occasion of childish hospitalities.

If a party is to be given the invitations may be written by the child on paper which is specially decorated for children, or it may be engraved in the usual formal wording on the same kind of paper.

In the late spring and summer it is best to have them play out of doors, but, of course, during cold weather all games must be held in doors.

The little host or hostess should be taught his or her part so as to entertain the guests.

Supper may be served when things begin to drag.

It always fulfills the child's idea of a good time if there is something which may be carried home, a toy, or a simple favor of some kind.

If the party is in honor of a birthday the little guests usually bring some trifling gift to the youthful host or hostess.

In taking leave, each little guest should say good-by first to the mother of the host or hostess in some such words as these, "Good afternoon, Mrs. —, and thank you very much for the delightful time which I have had." This is a conventional phrase and probably most children would say, "Good-by Mrs. —, I have had a perfectly lovely time" and I feel sure this would be all that is necessary, and much more natural.

What the Colonel Wanted.

The Story of How He Managed to Get It.
By Una Hudson.

It was when he decided that Agatha Fordyce was the only girl in the world that Harold Warburton took his uncle to call.

The colonel, to do him full justice, accompanied Harold most unwillingly. He was a bachelor of settled ways and fixed habits, and he thought it a hardship

to be dragged from his own comfortable fireside to spend the evening talking to a woman for whom he probably would not care two straws.

"Harold," he said, "is it really necessary for me to go?"

His glance shifted from the young man's clean-cut countenance to his own morocco-slipped feet.

"Now look here, uncle," his nephew reproved, "it's not right for you to stop in always every evening. Why, you'll rust; you'll disintegrate; you'll crumble. How many men in the world are there, do you think, who would pause, not to say haggle, over accepting an invitation to call upon a very charming woman?"

His uncle did not attempt to say.

Harold, reverting to his original motive, was loth to permit his quarry to elude him.

"Besides, the illusionary young man insisted, 'you ought to go. I should have no friends that you do not know, and the Fordyces are—very good friends.'"

To be sure, the colonel reflected, that put the matter in a different light.

He went, therefore, as a matter of duty. Harold was his only nephew, and he felt, in a way, responsible for the boy. It might be just as well, he decided, to look into this newly-formed friendship.

Being a person of unprejudiced mind, the colonel soon admitted that the Fordyce ladies were not only entirely unobjectionable, but even very attractive.

He smiled indulgently on Agatha, who was slender and fair-haired and pretty—just the type to attract a person of Harold's temperament. And he gave his best attention to Mrs. Fordyce, who was less slender than her daughter, and not so pretty, but quite as charming.

She was sewing lace on some lengths of cambric, and the colonel nodded approvingly. He thought women should be domestic in their tastes.

Later in the evening she rolled up her cambric and lace, and with a word of apology to the colonel left the room.

When she came back she carried a tray, on which were some tall glasses of home-made lemonade and a plate of cake.

The colonel accepted the lemonade, but he looked doubtfully at the cake. He was the unfortunate victim of a particularly distressing indigestion, and he feared the consequences of an unwonted indulgence.

"It's home-made, and very simple, Mrs. Fordyce encouraged him.

And the colonel yielded.

It was also, he found, very good, and what was even more to the point, entirely devoid of uncomfortable after-effects.

When Harold finally indicated that he was ready to go, the colonel pressed Mrs. Fordyce's hand warmly, and spoke glowingly of the pleasure his call had afforded him.

Moreover, he did not hesitate to inform his nephew that he had experienced a most agreeable disappointment, as he put it. Indeed, on the way home, he waxed positively enthusiastic. How much was due to the visit, and how much to the lack of after-effects from eating the cake, the young man, however, could not quite decide.

He required no urging at all when Harold again suggested a visit to Mrs. and Miss Fordyce, and it was not very long before he himself was unblushingly taking the initiative.

Twice he was asked to dinner with Harold, and it was those perfectly cooked and daintily served little meals that first turned the colonel's thoughts towards matrimony.

The colonel had never considered himself a marrying man. Indeed, until he fell a prey to indigestion he had been quite contented with his bachelor estate.

Now it occurred to him that a matrimonial alliance with Mrs. Fordyce might be to their mutual advantage. Her income, he knew, was a very slender one. He was in a position to give her all the luxuries that most appeal to the feminine nature; and, in return, he would ask only that she keep at bay this malady that so racked and worried him.

Certainly they were both of them old enough, and, he trusted, sensible enough to cast aside all sentiment and see clearly the material advantages of such a union.

The colonel's mind once made up, he lost no time in bringing the matter to Mrs. Fordyce's attention.

It was the gift of words, and he fluently laid out that marriage, being the most of all contracts, should rest en-

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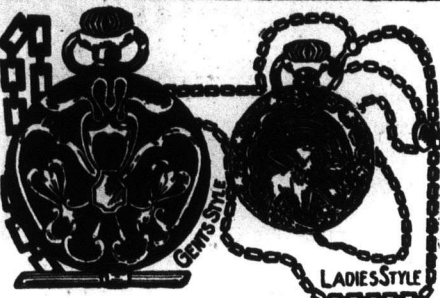


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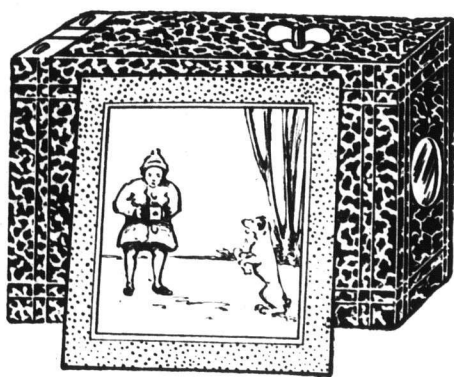
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