

HUSBANDS AND LOVERS.

WHY THE TERMS DO NOT MEAN THE SAME THING.

Perhaps one Reason is that Wives are Not Always Loveable—Little Faults Which Make Trouble—The Woman Who has a Bad Habit of Nagging.

"Why cannot husbands always be lovers?" asks the querist who is always propounding questions through the columns of society journals.

The question is not by any means an original one, indeed it seems to be qualifying itself to take the place of that dreary old chestnut "Is Marriage a Failure?" and to me it appears that the best possible answer suggests, itself Quaker fashion, in the form of another question. "Why cannot wives always be loveable?"

There may be exceptions to this, as there are to every other rule, but still I firmly believe that if the majority of wives would commit these six words to memory, and use them as a sort of supplementary daily text to rule their conduct by, there would be fewer unhappy homes. The mere question repeated frequently would suggest the answer "They can be always loveable if they will only take the trouble of trying, and I am going to try the experiment myself." It should not be such a hard experiment when one remembers how easy it always used to be to preserve the character of an angel during the courting days. Of course I know there are a thousand cares and sorrows, and scores of anxieties and responsibilities in married life from which the courtship time has freed, but though many a girl has plenty of cares of her own before marriage, she generally manages to keep them out of sight when her lover is with her, and to bring a smiling face, and serene temper to meet him whenever he has a few hours to spend in her society.

Few girls ever let their lovers find out that there is a side to their characters that is not lovable; they keep their very best selves for the man they love, just as they wear their best dresses and prettiest ribbons, delighting to do their heroes honor. It is not that they are intentionally deceitful, but merely that love puts them unconsciously at their very best, and seems to set up a higher standard for them to reach. Happiness is said to be the greatest of all beautifiers, and if a beautifier, why not also a sort of moral tonic, a sweetness of the disposition, toning down all asperities and softening the whole nature until it unfolds and blossoms like a plant in the sunshine? I think this is the effect of happiness on most natures, and that they are expanded and melted by the genial influence of happiness. Shakespeare dwelt upon the sweet uses of adversity, but I never agreed with the Bard of Avon on that point. I consider adversity the chilling frost which slights and dwarfs all that is best within us, and prosperity, the glorious sunshine which lifts our eyes and hearts to heaven, and develops all the noblest impulses of natures which are not utterly soiled and earthy.

But unfortunately there are so few things in this world which last, that even the effect of happiness wears off, after a time, and when the sweetheart has been a wife for a few years, she grows so accustomed to her husband's admiration that she accepts it as a matter of fact along with many of the other pleasant things of life just as she accepts the air she breathes, or the sunny skies, and moonlit nights of summer. Dear Jack, or dear Harry told her so often before they were married that she was pretty, and sweet, and attractive beyond all other girls, that she agreed with him, and began to consider him rather a fortunate fellow, in securing so charming a wife; and she gradually relaxed her efforts to appear lovely in his eyes, honestly thinking them unnecessary now that they were married. When she felt impatient she showed it, and when she did not feel like curling her hair, and was sure no one would drop in during the evening she left it uncured, little dreaming that the sight of her straight unbecoming locks was a source of positive annoyance to her beauty loving husband, every time he looked at her.

And then those little faults of his which once she used to laugh at, and encourage him in, seems to have taken an entirely new significance for her, since she knows him better, and instead of smiling over them now, she speaks of them quite sharply sometimes, to his boundless surprise. "Henry I wish you would get over that habit of biting your nails; I do think it about the most unpleasant trick anyone can indulge in, and it makes me so nervous I can scarcely sit in the room with you?" She remarks some evening, when her husband had forgotten himself for a moment, and allowed his mind to revert to some business problem which has been worrying him all day. And poor Harry who had almost forgotten what his real name sounds like, gives her a startled glance, and representing his first natural impulse to retort that his nails are his own and he will do as he likes with them, wonders if this can possibly be the angel of sweetness and he "wooded the other day" who used to think everything he did was right, only a short year ago and never noticed that little habit of his, except to tell him he would spoil the shape of his fingers.

Perhaps another little point of poor Harry's may be a certain unpunctuality in hours, which used to be a

great joke between them when they were lovers, and of which she made so light, that he never thought of it as a fault at all but now when he is late for dinner or tea, sometimes unavoidably, and comes home tired and dispirited, an indignant wife meets him at the door with flamed cheeks, and flashing eyes, and remarks coldly "I suppose you have had your dinner." What wonder if an angry answer springs to his lips, and he responds, "No I have not, and I consider it your place to have it waiting for me?"

By and by, there are children, and the wife's cares multiply so that she has less and less time to think of her personal appearance, or to go about with her husband, and as for all the charming little coquetties, and graces which won his heart in the old days, why of course they are not to be thought of, the realities of life have made all such frivolities impossible. And by and by Harry's wife is so changed that she is no more like the girl he fell in love with, than his mother is, so there is small blame for him if he ceases to be her lover, and settles down into a mere prosaic, and apparently indifferent husband.

No, the more I see of life, the more convinced I am that if women expect to retain ardent love they must try to retain the qualities which first won it. No one who is not lovable will ever be loved, and to make use of a very true, if homely saying, "women must take as much trouble to make the cage attractive as they took in spreading the net," if they wish to keep their husbands "always lovers."

ASTRA.

DID NOT PROVE IT A CURS WORD.

The Lady Missionary and the Mayor Discuss the Meaning of a Damn.

Her manner was that of great refinement. When Mr. Strong granted her the interview that she asked, she said to him: "Mayor Strong, I have been among your most ardent admirers, for your faithfulness in the discharge of your duty."

Here the mayor bowed politely, looked searchingly at the woman, and asked himself whether the subscription which she was going to beg of him would be one which would cost him less than ten or more than twenty dollars. He has a certain rule of limit for the subscriptions which he makes. "But," continued the lady, "there has been one thing which you have reported to have done which has given me great pain, and I have called to see you about that."

This was a new tack, and experience which the mayor had not had before. Surely, a person who was going to reproach him was not going to ask for a subscription. So he said:

"I am very sorry, indeed, if I have done anything as mayor which could have given a woman of your appearance, or in fact, any one, pain. Are you sure that I have? What is it?"

"Well, Mr. Strong, it was reported in the papers that you had used profane language, and I felt so uncomfortable when I read that I made up my mind that I would come to see you, ask you if it was so, and beg of you, if the report was true, to reform."

"Well, madam, I assure you that the report is untrue. I am not in the habit of using profane language, and I never saw any accusation in public print that I had."

"But it was reported in the papers that you said 'that you did not give a damn' for something or other."

"Well, now, it is possible that I might have said that. I can't say that I did or that I didn't."

"Oh, well then, you must have said the word, because they would not dare to report it if you did not, and I wanted to beg of you not to use profanity any more."

"William," said the Mayor, speaking up to an attendant, "won't you bring me the Bible?" and when he had the Bible he opened it, placed it in the lady's lap, and said, "Madam, if you will find anywhere in that book any authority for your assertion that the word to which you refer as profanity I shall consider myself to have sinned, and shall regret it."

"Oh, but of course the Bible does not mention the word," she said "but there is the commandment against profane swearing."

"That commandment I have not broken."

each gang places the stake where the iron rod stood, taps it two or three blows to make it stand alone, and then with a nod signals the gang to begin striking. The seven men stand in a circle around the stake, their sledges ready. Each man swings his sledge through a full circle, the heavy hammers coming down on the iron head of the stake in regular and rapid succession. Each man strikes about one blow a second, so that the stake receives seven blows a second. So skilful are the men that they never miss a blow, never interfere with each other, and never vary from the musical rhythm set by the leader—McClure's Magazine.

WAS A SOURCE OF PROFIT.

The Scheme by Which a Revenue Was Got from Knights of the Wheel.

"There's a Justice of the Peace in a country town not far from here," says the bicyclist, who has a scheme that will make him a millionaire if he sticks to it for a year or two. "You see, the town has an ordinance forbidding bicycle riding on the sidewalks. A good many wheelmen go that way, so what does this Justice do but scoop out a hole and make a great big mud puddle clear across the street right in front of his office. Of course, when a wheelman comes along, rather than ride through the mud, he turns upon the sidewalk. That's what the Justice is waiting for. He has a constable on the watch and the two rush out and nab the cyclist."

"I was caught in the snare last week though I protested I only intended to keep on the walk till I had passed the mud; it was of no avail I was fined \$5 and had to pay it. I got a chance to look at his book when he was recording my fine, and there was a record of some twenty wheelmen who had been served the same way that day and it was still early in the afternoon. It made me mad and I began abusing the old fellow for having such a mud puddle in the street."

"Why don't you fill it up?" I asked, "if you want wheelmen to keep in the road?" "He grinned in a most exasperating manner and answered without so much as a blush: 'I suppose we're going to destroy such a source of revenue as that mud puddle is? I guess not. John, turning to the constable 'you better take the hose and soften it up a little bit, ready for the next sucker.'"

MATTERS HERE AND THERE.

Things of Interest to Scientists Savants and People Generally.

Dr. Andrew Wilson, of London says that the color of violets, mignonette, tuberosas, and heliotrope is injurious to the voice. Vocalists are especially susceptible to the scent of these flowers. Violets are said to be the worst in their effect.

By placing the Madagascar expedition under the special protection of Joan of Arc, the Arch-bishop of Aix has contrived an ingenious method for French Catholics disaffected to the government to reconcile their religion with their patriotism.

Zenobia, the famous Queen of Palmyra is stated by ancient historians to have been of a light brown complexion, with intensely black hair and eyes. She is described as cutting off her hair in front and allowing it to hang over her forehead in the style of the modern "bang."

Vesary, the Prince of Hungary, is a man of the most simple tastes, and when he first entered office his task was rendered doubly hard by the fact that hitherto he had been but a poor Benedictine monk. He drove to the Primal pal ace at Gran in a public cab, carrying on his knee a cage containing his pet canary.

A queer suit in the Circuit Court now in session at Hodgenville, Ky., resulted in a hung jury. It was a suit over 1-200th part of an acre of land which was valued at \$5 per acre, Felix Ash and William Devers were the parties in the suit. The cost has already amounted to over \$50, while the land is valued at 23 cents. Mark Twain saw "Pudd'nhead Wilson" as a play for the first time Saturday night. Of the production he said: "I will only say that I congratulate Mr. Mayo. He has certainly made a beautiful play out of my rubbish. His is a charming gift. Confidentally, I have always had an idea that I was well equipped to write plays, but I have never encountered a manager who agreed with me."

In Australia the erstwhile despised rabbit has lately been turned to good use, a large number of these "vermin" having been shipped to London in a frozen condition. At first they retailed at about a shilling-a-dozen, but the ever-increasing supply has quite spoiled the market, and now that there are 40,000 frozen rabbits awaiting shipment from Melbourne alone it is doubtful whether the price realized in future will leave the shipper a net profit.

To Combat Cigarette Smoking. One of the most remarkable present-day organizations in the United States is the Anti-Cigarette League. Its object is to discourage cigarette smoking among school boys, and it is said to have no fewer than 350,000 youthful members. The following argument, which is given in all seriousness in order to induce boys to join, may have something to do with the popularity of the body:

"The cigarette fighter can keep himself busy leaving the smoker. He will grow stronger by leaving cigarettes alone and will therefore be the better able to fight. In this way he should find an amusement which will more than compensate for that which he now obtains by defying his parents, his teachers, and the public authority, and incidentally destroying his constitution."

Principles or Votes—Which? Both will be important in the coming elections. Both parties want votes; principles may come in later. Some people say that principles tell in the long run more powerfully and conquering than votes. Certainly, the principle, or root motive of

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Why He Flew. During the Battle of Bull Run a Union office, searching for stragglers, discovered a man making rapid strides for safety.

"Hi, man, what are you running for?" he exclaimed. "What am I running for?" he replied, without diminishing his speed, however; "why, because I want to get away with them pe-ky bullets back there, and I want to get away fast, and I haven't got any horses to run for me. That's why I've got to do my own flying."

What they Exhale. Investigation shows that the common sunflower exhales twelve ounces of water in twelve hours, and an oak tree, with an estimated number of 700,000 leaves, would in the same way give off something like 700 tons of water during the five months it carries its foliage.

Literally Paved With Gold. There is one place in the world, at any rate, where the streets are literally paved with gold. At Johannesburg some stone recently supplied for paving the streets was found to yield six pennyweights of the precious metal to the ton.

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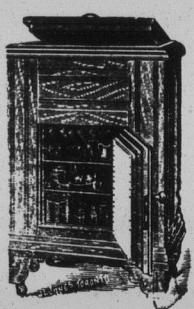
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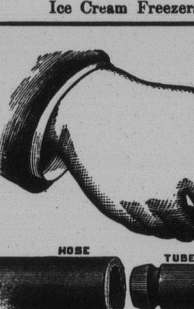
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