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SIDETALKS.

By Ruth Cameron.

HOW TO KEEP ONE'S FRIENDS.

"Friends," she said to herself, ought to be able to speak plainly to one another and if they did not agree upon a certain subject, they must fall back upon the deeper agreement to which their friendship had brought them, tested by time and welded by affection."

Archibald Marshall.

I copied these words out of a book I was reading because they seemed to me to express so well the ideal of a true friendship.

And because, at the same time, they point out so well the rock on which so many friendships founder.

I have a true friend whose kindly feeling towards me I could never really doubt. She has done some of the kindest things for me one woman ever did for another. Whenever things go wrong with me, my mind always turns toward her to help me set them right. Her advice is invaluable because it is absolutely sincere and will thought out—and it is never given unless I ask for it.

In fact, she is the pattern of what a true friend should be.

An Unfortunate Manner.

Except for one long. She has, at times, a most unfortunate manner. She will sometimes speak to me in a most rude and ungracious way which hurts both my pride and my feelings. No one likes to be snubbed by friends whose praises they have sung in the presence of people to whom the singing has been done. No one likes to be set right in a manner which suggests to those who hear that the set-righter thinks one is at least first cousin to a moron.

And when these things happen, as they occasionally do, I am filled with indignation against my friend.

Women's Superstitions.

ARE THEY FOOLISH?

At one of the Child Welfare Centres in Wales last month the Medical Officer appealed to the mothers present to put an end to "the cruel practice of cutting a baby's ear at the waxing of the moon."

Truly, superstition dies hard even in the twentieth century.

Few women would allow their wares to be cut by a razor, and yet how many customs and sayings cling round the life of the home.

RIGHT FOOT FOREMOST.

You must get out of bed right foot first, but into your bath with your left. To put on a garment inside out is a sign of good luck. It is unkind to pass anyone on the stairs, or wash in the same water, or to go beneath a ladder.

FOR BRIDES.

A bride must wear something blue and something borrowed, and it is most unkind for her to remove her marriage ring. Happy the bride the sun shines on. New-comers to her house must take her a gift.

Carry a new-born baby upstairs first, as a sign it may rise in the world.

THE BROKEN GLASS.

The most fatal event is an accident to a looking-glass—no doubt because the reflected image is destroyed.

Salt, which in former days was of great price, is surrounded by traditions. If you have the misfortune to spill it, some must at once be cast with the right hand over the left shoulder. It represents wealth, and grain is a sign of fruitfulness; hence the custom of presenting a bride with vessels containing either, and of throwing rice after a wedding carriage. The casting of salt shoes is a most ancient Jewish custom.

May is an unlucky month for marriage. This idea dates from Roman times, as the month was sacred to Diana, a Virgin Deity, Goddess of Chastity.

"Marry in May, woe is the day."

LUCK AND THE NEW MOON.

Everyone knows that at the New

The Fishermen's Friend

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BILLY'S UNCLE

Her Face is Not Her Fortune.

By BEN BATSFORD






EVANESCENT.

The griefs that beset me the week before last don't worry or fret me, they ended and past. They broke like the bubbles, and vanished, I wist; I found that my troubles were a builded of mist. But now I have new ones, dire bogies abound, and green ones and blue ones are standing around. I say, in my sorrow, "To-day is a joy, but wait for to-morrow—it's bound to bring woe. The sun is dispensing its world famous rays, but grief, I am waiting in oncoming days." We always are looking for something to burst, beshawing, gadzooking, and fearing the worst. The skies present are cloudless and clear, tempests unpleasant are sure to appear. To-day we are feeling as when new; next week we are rolling around with the flu. We are carving a roast and a pig, we shall be starving are many say. Through life we go treading souls out of plumb, still fearing dreading the griefs that darken the future, just pack up and don't move us to tears. Oh, fear of the future, just pack up and don't move us to tears. Oh, fear of the future, just pack up and don't move us to tears.

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HEY MERLE CHRYM from week had one y sisters, my two y. That was on a mother came out. The y car fare, she wou long miles from the ylum. Once in a w ying the bus, she wou in a cable car. I finished grammar tuate enough to and fifty dollars from the preparat y standing at the The medal was to hold; but the y two hundred and y the bank to keep y students. The y high school, wh y given very few o y exchange. When y of at sixteen, I y ch understood—y and less than on y weight. Our die y ved very cond

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