

erectly and firmly, not stiffly; walk with ease, but still with dignity. Don't bend out the knees, nor walk in-toed, nor drag your feet along; walk in a large, easy, simple manner; without affectation but not negligently.

Don't carry your hands in your pockets. Don't thrust your thumbs into the arm-holes of your waist-coat.

Don't cleanse your ears, or your nose, or trim and clean your finger-nails, in public. Cleanliness and neatness in all things pertaining to the person are indispensable, but toilet offices are proper in the privacy of one's apartment only.

Don't chew or nurse your toothpick in public—or anywhere else. Don't use a toothpick, except for a moment, to remove some obstacle; and don't have the habit of sucking your teeth.

Don't chew tobacco. It is a bad and ungentlemanly habit. The neatest tobacco-chewer can not wholly prevent the odor of tobacco from affecting his breath and clinging to his apparel, and the "places that know him" are always redolent of the weed. If one *must* chew, let him be particular where he expectorates. He should not discharge tobacco-juice in public vehicles, on the sidewalk, or in any place where it will be offensive.

Don't expectorate. Men in good health do not need to expectorate; with them continual expectoration is simply the result of habit. Men with bronchial or lung diseases are compelled to expectorate, but no one should discharge matter of the kind in public places except into vessels provided to receive it. Spitting upon the floor any where is inexcusable. One should not even spit upon the sidewalk, but go to the gutter for the purpose. One must not spit into the fire-place nor upon the carpet, and hence the English rule is for him to spit in his handkerchief—but this is not a pleasant alternative. On some occasions no other may offer.

Don't whistle in the street, in public vehicles, at public assemblies, or anywhere where it may annoy.

Don't laugh boisterously. Laugh heartily when the occasion calls for it, but the loud guffaw is not necessary to heartiness.

Don't have the habit of smiling or "grinning" at nothing. Smile or laugh when there is occasion to do either, but at other times keep your mouth shut and your manner composed. People who laugh at everything are commonly capable of nothing.

Don't blow your nose in the presence of others if you can possibly avoid it. Above all things, don't blow your nose with your fingers. Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes declares that, in all the discussions and differences of opinion as to what constitutes a gentleman, all disputants unite in excluding the man who blows his nose with his fingers.

Don't gape, or hiccough, or sneeze in company. When there is an inclination to hiccough or sneeze, hold your breath for a moment and resist the desire, and you will find that it will pass off.

Don't have the habit of letting your lip drop and your mouth remain open. "Shut your mouth," is the advice of a *savant*, who has written a book on the subject. Breathe through your nostrils and not through your mouth; sleep with your mouth closed; keep it closed except when you open it for a purpose. An open mouth indicates feebleness of character, while the habit affects the teeth and the general health.

Don't keep carrying your hands to your face, pulling your whiskers, adjusting your hair, or otherwise fingering yourself. Keep your hands quiet and under control.

Don't be over-familiar. Don't strike your friends on the back, nudge them in the side, or give other physical manifestation of your pleasure. Don't indulge in these familiarities, nor submit to them from others.

Don't bolt, without notice, into any one's private apartment. Respect always the privacy of your friends, however intimate you may be with them.

Don't wear your hat in a strictly private office. This is no more justifiable than wearing a hat in a drawing-room.

Don't carry a lighted cigar into a private office or into a salesroom.

Don't be servile towards superiors, nor arrogant toward inferiors. Maintain your dignity and self-respect in one case, and exhibit a regard for the feelings of people, whatever their station may be, in the other.

Don't frequent bar-rooms. Tippling is not only vulgar and disreputable, but injurious to health.

LETTERS AND QUESTIONS.

DURING the past month letters and questions have been pouring upon us in excessive profusion (between two and three hundred a day) but as they have been chiefly orders for goods and enquiries concerning the same, they are of interest to The Massey Manufacturing Company rather than the general reader, hence it would scarcely be wise to reproduce them here even if space were available.

But among all the communications received at this office, only one contained a correct solution of the "plank" problem given in last issue. It is rather lengthy but as it may be of interest to those who tried but did not succeed we give it herewith:

Let x = the distance in feet from the small end,
And y = width of the plank in feet where sawn across.

(1) Then $\left(\frac{y+\frac{1}{2}}{2}\right)x = 4\frac{1}{2}$ or half the area.

(2) And $\left(\frac{y+1}{2}\right)(12-x) = 4\frac{1}{2}$ also.

Multiplying (1) through by 2 we get

$$xy + \frac{x}{2} = 9.$$

$$2xy + x = 18.$$

$$y = \frac{18-x}{2x}.$$

Again, multiplying (2) through by 2 we get

$$(x+1)(12-x) = 9,$$

$$12y - xy + 12 - x = 9,$$

$$12y - xy - x = -3,$$

$$x + xy - 12y = 3.$$

Substitute for "y" in this equation the value of "y" obtained above.

$$\text{Then } x + x\left(\frac{18-x}{2x}\right) - 12\left(\frac{18-x}{2x}\right) = 3.$$

Multiply through by $2x$.

$$2x^2 + 18x - x^2 - 216 + 12 + x = 6x,$$

$$x^2 + 24x - 216 = 0,$$

$$x^2 + 24x = 216.$$