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Side Talks by Ruth Cameron

THE WISDOM OF A RICH MAN'S DAUGHTER.



RUTH CAMERON

A few days ago I wrote you of a letter I had received, signed "A Rich Man's Daughter but a Poor Man's Wife." I dwell so long on the vista of feminine readjustment to marriage that this letter opened up, that I was unable to quote the letter itself. But the letter ought to be quoted and here it is:

"The topic for to-night especially interested me for I think the majority of us had to wake up and be more thrifty in order to make things come out right at the end of the month.

Pleasure in Doing Hard Things.

"Although at first it generally comes hard to do without, in time I think the most of us find pleasure in accomplishing what once we thought was impossible!

"The thought that we must be careful need not be a hardship unless we make it so. Brooding only makes it hard, whereas if we think that by being thrifty in the end it will make someone more happy, then I think the effort seems well worth while.

"It costs little to smile, and a smiling face, a kind word, goes a long way toward helping us forget that we cannot afford to have everything we would like to.

"I find a good cure for me, when I feel that I cannot stand it to go on being careful all the time, is to go to the home of someone who is poorer than I. Then I come home and think how happy we ought to be.

"Another way is to drop my work, go to the house of someone who is lonely or ill, and do some little act for them. And by thus making someone else happier I feel happier too.

She Has Been Rich and Poor.

"We don't have to spend money in order to be happy. You see I have been both rich and poor, and so now how it feels both to spend and count my pennies and one can be happy doing either if one just gets to looking at it in the right way!"

Truly, if anyone should know how to be happy, in spite of having to watch the pennies, it is this woman, for she certainly has all the rules for being happy down fine.

In the first place, the joy of contriving—"I think the most of us find pleasure in accomplishing what we thought was impossible." You can make thrift into a game in a hundred ways if you will. I found it difficult to get the little girl who helps me in the summer, to be saving with oil until I devised the game of seeing how long we could make five gallons last. We have a record now of ten days that we are trying to beat. There are ever so many of these little games one can play with oneself—if one will!

The Reflex Action of a smile.

In the second place, the effect of a smile, not only on the one who sees, but on the one who smiles! The reflex action of maintaining a cheerful attitude is something that is only beginning to be understood. Throw out your chest, throw back your shoulders and smile, and you simply cannot feel so badly as if you let your shoulders slump and the corners of your mouth turn down.

In the third place, contrasting what you have with the lot of those who have less—not in a smug way, but to shame oneself into a better attitude. In the fourth place, doing something kind for somebody, and thus taking your mind off yourself and starting the glow of pleasure in your own heart that just inevitably results from such an act.

Truly, any woman who has mastered the deeper secrets of happiness as this woman has "does not need to spend money in order to be happy."



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Mainly About People.

Lady Sackville, wife of a nephew of a former British minister at Washington, has a hobby for objects of art that amounts almost to a cult. She has a unique method of decorating the windows of her new home at Brighton. She has had glass shelves fitted across the windows on which specimens of her wonderful collections are displayed.

John Burroughs, the famous agriculturist and naturalist, has a handsome coat of woodchuck skins made from animals which he shot or trapped last year near his home in the Catskills. He has a rug made from the skins of three troublesome rodents. He urges all farmers to do what he has done.

Paul Poiret, a famous French couturier, recently appeared at a race course in a fashion for men who affect sports. He wore a bizarre combination of green overcoat, orange necktie, brown suit, gray hat and white spats. He escorted Mlle. Mistinguett, a noted actress, who looked like a cloud of furs.

Mrs. Carolyn Votan, of Washington, D.C., has done more political travel-

ling than her distinguished brother, Candidate Harding, has done since given the Republican nomination. She has recently told the women of San Francisco just what they must do to elect her brother.

The late Lord Kitchener's beautiful place at Canterbury, Broome Park, has been let by the nephew, Viscount Broome, to whom he left it, to Mr. William Rich, of Portland-place. A feature of Broome-place is the superb collection of blue china. Its accumulation was one of the absorbing passions of the great soldier's life.

The first woman in New England to announce her candidacy for mayor of a city is Mrs. Eliza Brown Daggett, of Attleboro. Her platform is a clean city physically and morally. Her nomination papers are being circulated by her husband. She already has the politicians guessing.

Michael Pons, a poet of Paris, finding that he could by no means gain a living by his verses, in spite of the support of some of the most celebrated and even fashionable literateurs of the city, in despair took to keeping a public-house. In ten years he made a comfortable fortune, and has just given a farewell feast to his friends and admirers. He has bought a little property in the country, and he advised all, especially poets, to do as he had done and so come to the same haven.

General Wrangel, the new "white

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hope" of Russia, is a soldier, administrator of ability, with a temperament that inspires love and respect as well as fear. He has surrounded himself with capable men. He is the son of an impoverished Baltic baron, and is in his first year. He is a mining engineer.

Dr. Blanche Norton, an American woman physician, who contracted the "incurable" trachoma, the scourge of ancient Egypt, has opened a hospital in Constantinople for others so afflicted. She is back in New York for final cure. She met Osman Agon, the slaughterer of Armenians, "the most fearful creature" the doctor ever saw. He delights in murder.

Marjorie Styles, who is but 13 years of age, entered a New England high school at nine, picked up music and plays the classics, knitted sweaters for soldiers and cared for the family during influenza, plays the cello and mandolin, and is well grounded in French, Latin and mathematics, entered Wellesley at 13.

WEARY OF VIRTUE.



W. W. MASON

For months I save the dollars with energy sublime, and wear old shoes and collars to save another dime. For months I am a student of thrift in every guise; I am so beastly prudent I make men blink their eyes. I preach on self denial beneath my own roof-tree, till life becomes a trial to all who live with me. For months I keep on raving about the penny gained; then I get sick of saving, by thrift my soul is pained. And so I blow my money as though I had no sense, and live on milk and honey, regardless of expense; I patronize the tailor and buy a automobile, and like a jingled sail or I burn the hard earned wheel. Then, tired of misbehaving, I gently simmer down, and once again I'm saving the guilder and the crown. And such a course seems dotty to people safe and sane, who think such orgies naughty, and villainous and vain. But saving, though a virtue, may soon become a fault that's bound to badly hurt you, unless you call a halt before the shining dollar to you seems so immense that all the world looks smaller than its circumference. The thrifty man is wiser than the spend-thrift jake; but, oh, the greedy miser! He makes my innards ache.

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MUTT AND JEFF

ON THE LEVEL, HASN'T JEFF GOT A SILLY IDEA OF HUMOR.

—By Bud Fisher.

