

of *do not*, not of *does not*. Hence, "he don't" is not permissible. Say "He doesn't."

Don't say *ain't* for *isn't*, and, above all, don't say *ain't*. Say *aren't* for *are not*, *isn't* for *is not*; and, although *ain't* may by a stretch be considered an abbreviation of "am not," it is in better taste to speak the words in full.

Don't say "I *done* it," "he *done* it," "they *done* it." This is a very gross error, yet it is often made by people who ought to know better. "I did it," "he did it," "they did it," is, it ought to be unnecessary to say, the correct form.

Don't say "I *seen*," say "I *saw*." This error is commonly made by the same people who say "I *done* it." A similar error is, "If he had *went*," instead of "If he had *gone*."

Don't say "It is *him*," say "It is *he*." So, also, "It is *I*," not "It is *me*"; "It is *they*," not "It is *them*."

Don't say "He is older than *me*," say "He is older than *I*." "I am taller than *he*," not "I am taller than *him*."

Don't say "Charles and me are going to church." The proper form is, "Charles and *I* are going," etc.

Don't say "Between you and *I*." By an ingenious perversity, the same people who insist, in the instances we have cited, upon using the objective case where the nominative is called for, in this phrase reverse the proceeding. They should say, "Between you and *me*."

Don't, in referring to a person, say *he* or *she* or *him*, but always mention the name. "Mrs. Smith thinks it will rain," not "*she* thinks it will rain." There are men who continually refer to their wives as *she*, and wives who have commonly no other name than *he* for their husbands. This is abominable.

Don't say *lay* for *lie*. It is true, Byron committed this blunder—"There let him *lay*"—but poets are not always safe guides. *Lay* expresses transitive action; *lie* expresses rest. "I will *lie* down; "I will *lay* it down."

Don't use *them* for *those*. "*Them* boots," "*them* bonnets," etc., is so gross an error that we commonly hear it only from the uneducated.

Don't say, "I am *through*," when you are announcing that you have finished dinner or breakfast. "Are you *through*?" asked an American of an Englishman when seated at table. "Through!" exclaimed the Englishman, looking in an alarmed way down to the floor and up to the ceiling—"through what?"

Don't misuse the words *lady* and *gentleman*. Don't say "A nice *lady*." If you must use the word *nice*, say "A nice woman." Don't say "A pleasant *gentleman*," say "An agreeable person." Say "What kind of man is he?" not "What kind of gentleman is he?" Say "She is a good woman," not "a good *lady*." The indiscriminate use of *lady* and *gentleman* indicates want of culture. These terms should never be used when sex pure and simple is meant.

Don't say "I *guess*" for "I *think*," or "I *expect*" for "I *suppose*."

Don't use *plenty* as an adjective, but say *plentiful*. So say the purists, although old writers frequently violated this rule. "If reasons were as *plenty* as blackberries," says Falstaff. If we obey the rule, we must say "money is *plentiful*," not "money is *plenty*."

Don't use *fix* in the sense of putting in order, setting to rights, etc. This is a condemned Americanism. *Fix* means to make fast, to permanently set in place,

and hence the common American usage is peculiarly wrong.

Don't adopt the common habit of calling everything *funny* that chances to be a little odd or strange. *Funny* can only be rightly used when the comical is meant.

Don't use a plural pronoun when a singular is called for. "Every passenger must show *their* ticket," illustrates a prevalent error. "Everybody put on *their* hats" is another instance; It should be, "Everybody put on *his* hat."

Don't say "blame it on him," but simply, "blame him." The first form is common among the uneducated.

Don't use *got* where it is unnecessary. "I have *got* an umbrella," is a common form of speech, but *got* here is needless, and it is far from being a pleasing word. "I have a book," not "I have *got* a book," and so in all similar cases.

Don't use *less* for *fewer* in referring to things of numbers. *Less* should be applied to bulk only; "*less* than a bushel, *fewer* than a hundred," indicates the proper distinction to be made in the use of the two words.

WORKMANS' LIBRARY ASS'N.

On account of the small attendance, the City school authorities decided that the school in connection with the Association must be closed, which was accordingly done in the beginning of February. We are much disappointed that a project which at first gave promise of such excellent success, should collapse so soon. We think it is a great pity that young men particularly should neglect to take advantage of the means provided for them to improve themselves, and we do not profess to understand why it should be so. Yet so it seems to be, and we suppose that is an end of the matter.

The concert on Feb. 15th, for the benefit of the widow of the late Robert Davey, was a success. Space will not allow of our particularizing as to the various numbers, but it is only just to the ladies and gentlemen who took part in the programme to say that their efforts to please the very large audience present were more than successful, and resulted in an evening brimful of enjoyment to all who could appreciate the excellent things provided. The boys were there as usual, and as usual made their presence known. Of course, we couldn't do without the boys as a whole; but there are, perhaps, two or three from whom letters of apology would not be regarded by the audience as a public calamity. If these young gentlemen should be so deeply immersed in engagements at the time of next concert that their presence is impossible, we will put forth every effort to get on without them.—In another column we give statement of proceeds of the concert.

If there are any of our readers who have preserved their TRIP-HAMMERS, and would care to have them bound, they may send them to us, care of The Massey Mfg. Co., and we will have them done. The price for binding will be very moderate, from 50c. upwards, according to style, and the cash must be remitted when magazines are sent.