

of death against the unhappy rover of the woodland than are the powers that be subjected to the scrutiny of the individual possessed of this most-to-be-coveted art. Definite, pointed, and always correct, it possesses that which all men admires; hence its great worth and universal appreciation.

The calamitous issue of any undertaking is the certain precursor of one of its most successful dictions. A familiar example will illustrate. A company is about to spend a day in festivity. Our friend, after-prophecy, remains at home. The morning clouds soon pass away and all is glad. The expedition departs, but when at evening it returns, the soiled cloth and pretty ribbons, which the morning toilet had so carefully arranged, and perhaps not without a purpose, tell what the sudden shower has done towards swelling the fortunes of the day. A splendid chance for the exercise of after-prophecy! And shall it be lost? Certainly not. In stentorian tones its voice is heard proclaiming: "I knew it would rain; the morning clouds foretold it. I felt confident of it all the time."

Or again: Some new enterprise is entered upon. To all appearance the prospects for success seem fair. With a commendable zeal all necessary arrangements are made for its completion. Meanwhile some unlooked-for event occurs to blast all the hopes which seemed so well grounded. Failure and disappointment follow, where promised joy and success. The keen discernment of after-prophecy is again busily at work, and answering voices re-echo the sound: "I was suspicious of the arrangement from the beginning, and in my own mind thought that it would turn out *just as it has*. Strange that people *will* not learn!"

Wise souls! whose wisdom stands akin to the interest in the welfare of others, manifested by a certain ancient maiden lady, who, conversing with a friend upon the propriety of young people reading novels, said that she felt it to be her duty to read all the light literature in her power, so that she might be in a position to advise the young as to what they should read.

Benevolent heart! How striking the resemblance, as well as the contrast, to the modest little flower—

"—— that's born to blush unseen  
And waste its sweetness on the desert air."

Long may she live to assist after-prophecy in her mission of mercy to a suffering and fallen humanity!

### Languages.

THE *Geographer Balbi* reckoned that there were 860 distinct languages and 5000 dialects. *Adelung* reckons up 3064 languages and dialects. Of the 860 distinct languages, 53 belong to Europe, 114 to Africa, 153 to Asia, 423 to America, and 117 to Oceania.

European languages, called Indo-European because of their connection and relation to Sanscrit, a dead language of Upper India containing a valuable literature, are co-extensive with the Caucasian race and modern civilization. The two great divisions are Celtic and Gothic. The leading features of this language are the compounding of syllables to make new meanings, and the use of inflections to form cases, moods, tenses, etc. The second great class of languages, occupying China and the other countries of Eastern Asia, is called the monosyllabic class, because every word in them consists of only one syllable. There are only about 400 syllables in the Chinese language, which makes no use of moods, tenses, etc. The tone in which they are pronounced and the order in which they are placed determine the meaning. It wants the consonants f, d, r, v, x.

The American Indians possess a language of wonderful richness in words, remarkable for complicated grammatical forms. We have heard Micmac scholars say that it was like the Greek in its deep melody and euphonic arrangement. This class of languages has been called polysynthetic from their combining many ideas in the form of words.

A Freshie always sits on the opposite side of the room from his girl; a Soph. occupies a chair at some distance from her on the same side of the room; a Junior sits on the further end of the same sofa that his girl occupies; but a Senior—Oh my! *Ex.*