

# THE NUT-SHELL

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## THE NUT-SHELL

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This miniature journal is printed from the smallest type ever manufactured, being cast and imported from Europe especially for this publication. It is a marvel of mechanical skill, and a fair index of the rapid advancement of the typographical art. This, and future numbers, should be carefully preserved as they will prove not only a curiosity, but will furnish for reference a large amount of valuable information not to be obtained elsewhere.

### "NUT-SHELL" GOSSIP.

I HAVE heard so much about myself during the past few weeks while being carried around in everybody's pocket, that in presenting myself once more before a critical public I am constrained to talk a little about myself, although nature modestly forbids me saying some things which I have heard. When I made the statement last month that I was the smallest production from movable type ever issued from the press in this or any other country I was laughed at by not a few of the "smart ones," and told that I was old enough to grow a beard. The principal argument against my claim to originality seemed to be that the Toronto Mail and some other metropolitan papers had been produced from type just as small. I was amused on hearing such remarks at the publicity of the public, and although my voice was too weak to enter any protest at the time I take this opportunity of removing the cob-webs from the eyes of my critics, and trust that it will save me the annoyance of being grossly maligned hereafter. Several prominent journalists throughout Canada and the United States have issued for similar productions of their respective journals, not from type, however, but through the process of photography, the original paper having been reduced to miniature by this process and transferred to stone by the lithographer for printing. Therefore not a single line of type has been used in any of these publications. I cannot permit myself to be classed in the same category, and hope this will be an end to the matter.

I have already gained the reputation for having a very pretty face, and physiognomists say they can read it like an open book. The girls—my special favorites—say they've sweet things about me, and always carry me near the upper left-hand corner of their left side. They handle me very carefully, and always show me to their best-ideal, that is, of course, when the girl is not turned too low.

I have felt considerably amused on many occasions when that class of society who are so anxious to read used to "make the attempt to read me. They would don their eye-glasses, look astrance at me, hold me close, then at arm's length, and I have apparently struck the proper focus, and affirm in the gravest possible way they could not see any word as "plain" would be, while at the same time I know they couldn't tell

whether I was the production of the industrious hives during the warm days of August or the handiwork of the Printer's devil.

This month I present you with an entirely new programme and will endeavor to keep you interested in me. I want to make many friends as possible, and should you not happen to meet me on the street, you know where I am to be found. Call around and see me and do your shopping at the same time. As usual.

### THE NUT-SHELL.

#### SOMETHING ABOUT LONDON.

Every four minutes marks a birth in the city, two hours after you read this thirty babies have been born and twenty deaths will have taken place. Think of it! The evening paper that records the births and deaths of the preceding four-and-twenty hours must give 500 separate items. Verily, its job is hard and sorrowful multitude.

London has 7,000 miles of streets, and if you walked them at the rate of twenty miles a day you would have to walk almost a year, and more than a year by nearly fifty days if you should rest on Sundays. And if you were a thirty sort of a traveller and couldn't pass a public house don't be alarmed; the 7,000 miles have five-and-seventy thousand public-houses, so you need not think of it.

In a year London folks swallow down 500,000 oxen, 2,000,000 sheep, 300,000 calves, 300,000 swine, 8,000,000 head of fowls, 500,000,000 pounds of fish, 500,000,000 oysters, 200,000,000 lobsters—is that enough to figure on? If not, there are some 100,000,000 of canned provisions, no end of fruit and vegetables, and 50,000,000 bushels of flour. And when they wash all the food down you might get glad to know. It takes 200,000,000 quarts of beer. But more than this, they drink 10,000,000 quarts of wine, 100,000,000 quarts of wine; the wine, the rum, the beer, 390,000,000 quarts.

#### WHAT A LEMON WILL DO.

Lemonade made from the juice of the lemon is one of the best and safest drinks for any person, whether in health or not. It is suitable for all stomach ailments, such as indigestion, cases of jaundice, gravel, liver complaint, inflammation of the bowels and fever. It is a specific against worms and skin eruptions. The juice crushed may be used with sugar and water and taken as a drink. Lemon juice is the best and most efficacious remedy known. It not only cures the disease, but prevents it. Sailors make daily use of it for this purpose. We advise every one to rub their gums with lemon juice to keep them in a healthy condition. The hands and nails are also kept clean, white, soft and supple by the daily use of lemon juice. It also prevents chilblains. Lemon is used in intermittent fevers, mixed with strong hot black coffee, without sugar. Neuralgia, it is said, may be cured by rubbing the part affected with a wet emulsion. It is valuable also to cure warts. It will remove dandruff by rubbing the roots of the hair with it. It will alleviate finally all kinds of colds, and head diseased lungs, taken hot on going to bed at night, and in the morning, and the more we employ it internally the better we shall find ourselves. A doctor in Rome is trying it experimentally in malarial fevers with great success, and thinks it will supersede quinine.

### DEPORTMENT IN SOCIAL INTER-COURSE.

BOTH our comfort and our success in life depend largely on our personal deportment towards those with whom we come in contact. And, in social matters, even the smallest points are worthy of the closest attention on the part of the most gifted. It has been truly said that "trifles make up the sum of human life." If the fate of empires sometimes hinges on the slightest circumstance, much more the welfare of a single human being. Learning and intellect are of priceless worth. But even the scholar and the genius cannot afford to ignore the minor courtesies of social intercourse. And, while true politeness is the native elegance of warm and generous heart, and the basis of all genuine culture, there are many social customs and usages which are purely conventional, and can only be acquired from books, and from actual intercourse with people of intelligence, refinement and thorough cultivation. Our space here will not permit an exhaustive discussion of social etiquette. We hope to present, in a very concise and convenient form, the most essential rules of good behavior, as recognized by the best authorities, and in the highest degree, merely to be given under distinct headings, for convenient reference on all occasions.

**Etiquette of Introductions.**  
Before introducing strangers, it is well to ascertain whether the acquaintance is mutually desired, or not. In ordinary cases, a gentleman should not be presented to a lady until the latter has given distinct permission. Ill-judged introductions are embarrassing. Where there is difference of rank, or position the person in lower status should be introduced to him who holds the higher place. A lady should never be introduced to a gentleman. Courtesy gives the precedence to ladies in all cases. The younger person should be introduced to the elder.  
No parade of words is necessary on an introduction. It is enough to say, "Mr. Thompson, permit me to introduce Mr. Brown." Then, turning to the other friend, say, "Mr. Brown, Mr. Thompson." The two gentlemen will then shake hands and exchange some courteous remark, or merely bow.

The same form will be observed in presenting a gentleman to a lady, but you bow to the lady which will be more pronounced and deferential. It will be sufficient for the lady to bow.

When the person introduced is famous for some achievement or discovery, it is proper to couple his claims to special recognition with the name which it commands. Introductions do not oblige the persons introduced to continue the acquaintance. When you are introduced to a lady at the house of a friend, it will be at her option subsequently to recognize you or not, as she may prefer. The deprecating usages of the United States entitle you to call on the President, or on the Governor of your own State, at any public reception, merely handing your card to the master of ceremonies. But a private interview with either should be sought through some Senator or representative of your acquaintance, who will arrange the matter for you.

More ceremony is required at all foreign courts. Should you be Windsor Castle when Queen Victoria is there, and desire an interview, it would be necessary to see the Canadian Minister and obtain of him a letter to the gentleman. Then, when these are submitted to Her Majesty, a special time will be designated for your presenta-

tion. And this is done with much form and ceremony.

**Etiquette of Salutations.**  
All countries have distinctive forms of salutation. In some parts of the world, noses are gravely rubbed together. In this country the prevalent salutations are bowing, raising the hat, caressing, and kissing. The last, however, is scarcely reserved for near and dear friends.

Gentlemen introduced to each other will extend and grasp right hands for a moment. To present a passive hand, or one or two fingers, is an insolent assumption of superiority. Continuing to hold and shake the hand, as though a lease of it had been taken, is rather embarrassing.

A gentleman, introduced to a young lady should not extend his hand unless the lady takes the initiative. Do not grasp hands as though to show your muscular power. A brief, firm grasp will suffice.

Should a lady bow to a gentleman on the street, or in a public place, he should raise his hat, bow slightly and pass on.

Ladies should not ordinarily stop in the street to speak to gentlemen friends. But when a lady thinks it necessary to do so, the gentleman acceded must pause.

Ladies, introduced to gentlemen, are expected to extend the right hand to every guest they receive.

When shaking hands with a lady, a gentleman is not permitted to press her hand.

You may not remember a person who bows to you on the street, or he may have blundered in thinking he knew you. But politeness requires you to return his salute.

In meeting friends in public places, salute them with quiet courtesy, and not in a loud, boisterous tone.

**Etiquette of Dress.**  
The golden rule in dress is to avoid the extreme, while you conform to the whole, to the prevailing fashions. Do not affect fashions that are radically unbecoming to you, and avoid all eccentricities of dress. Do not choose garments that would render you conspicuous. Let it be your aim to dress in accordance with your means and your social position. Ladies who are not rich, but whose tastes are cultivated, can always procure dresses, at a moderate expense, by proper care in the choice and arrangement of material. The style and fit of a garment is more important than the cost of the fabric.

Home dresses, and those for the church or for the theatre, should be quiet and modest, while those for the opera, for dinner parties, or other public occasions, may be richer and more elaborate. It is only with these costly dresses that expensiveness should be worn. The ostentatious exhibition of jewelry is in wretched taste.

Neat and tasteful coverings for the head, feet and hands are specially important, and indicate a cultivated taste. When going from home, immaculate linen is indispensable.

A gentleman may wear a threadbare coat, but his linen must not be soiled nor his garments untidy.

**Etiquette of Calls.**  
What are termed morning calls are made between noon and 5 p.m. Evening calls are made between 7 and 9 p.m. Informal calls are prolonged until 10 p.m. With intimate friends the visit may be extended beyond that hour, but care should be taken not to make intrusion to your entertainers.

In calling on any person in a hotel or boarding-house, it is customary to

stop in the parlor, and send your card to their room.

Residents in a place make the first call upon any newcomers.

When calling, if the room seems crowded do not prolong your stay.

No gentleman will prolong a call if he finds his host or hostess dressed to go out.

Cards, used in calling, should have nothing on them but the name and address of the caller.

In making calls, avoid political, religious, or controverted topics of conversation.

Take no children, dogs, or other pets, with you in making calls.

In large houses, the hostess should ring, when callers rise to go, that a servant may show them out, unless she herself designs attending them to the door.

Ladies should make their morning calls in simple *neglige*—not in elaborate dress.

Ordinarily, morning calls should be brief—from ten to twenty minutes.

Calls from people living in the country are expected, for obvious reasons, to be longer and less ceremonious than from those who reside in the cities.

When a gentleman is going abroad and is pressed for time, it is usual to enclose his card to each of his friends. Upon the envelope he writes *P. P. C. (P. sur prendre congé)*, "to take leave."

In making an informal evening call, the gentleman may leave hat, gloves, cane and overcoat in the hall. In a formal call he retains hat and gloves in his hand.

In formal calls, ladies are not expected to remove bonnet or wraps.

Do not seat yourself too closely by the side of a lady when calling. It presumes familiarity.

A lady should not keep callers waiting. Should they call at inconvenient hours, it is better to see them in the morning dress than to make an elaborate toilet. If there is any fault, it is their own.

Never resume your seat after rising to depart. It is extremely awkward to take leave twice.

It is a breach of etiquette to walk round the room, while waiting for your hostess, examining the furniture, books, or pictures.

To prolong a call until luncheon, or the next meal time, is a positive rudeness.

In calling, it is rude to place your chair so as to bring your back towards any one in the room.

*Table Etiquette.*

Habitual disregard of the courtesies and etiquette of the table will make persons appear awkward and constrained when it is important that they should be completely at their ease. Parents should train their children, by example as well as precept, to be attentive and polite to each other at every meal. And those who are thus trained will exhibit urbanity afterwards.

When from home do not seat yourself until your seat is indicated by the hostess.

Do not sit either very near the table, or at an inconvenient distance.

It is rude and awkward to place your hands or elbows on the table, or to move them so as to incommodate those on either side of you.

Do not put large pieces of food into the mouth. It has the appearance of greediness, and, if you are suddenly addressed, you must either pause before answering, or run the risk of choking yourself.

To eat and drink noisily, smacking the lips, sucking in soup with a gurgling sound, or breathing heavily while masticating food, are all marks of low breeding.

Food should always be conveyed to the mouth with a fork—never with a knife.

When helping others to gravy or sauce, put it on a vacant spot on the plate, and not over other things.

On sending your plate to be replenished, remove the knife and fork, and rest them on a piece of bread.

Tea and coffee should be sipped from the cup, and not poured out into the saucer.

Always lift and pass food to others courteously, and never shove it across the table.

To use one's own knife, spoon or fingers, instead of the butter-knife, sugar-tongs, or salt-spoons, will convey the impression that you are grossly ignorant of polite usages.

Do not gormandize on one or two articles especially to your taste. It is extremely vulgar.

Spitting, sneezing, coughing, or hard blowing of the nose at table, are all alike objectionable.

If obliged to use your handkerchief, do it quietly, and turn your head from the table.

Never spit out, upon your plate, bones, cherry stones, grape skins, etc.; but either carry them to it with the hand, or upon the spoon or fork.

It is not polite to soak up gravy with bread, or to take up bones with the fingers.

Bread must always be broken—never cut; and bread only may be placed on the table-cloth.

Where there are waiters, ask one of

door open and allow her to enter first, if practicable. A gentleman should never pass before a lady anywhere, if he can avoid it, and never without an apology.

Should a lady address an enquiry to a gentleman on the street, he will lift his hat, or at least touch it respectfully, as he replies. If he cannot give the desired information, he will express regrets.

No gentleman will stand on street corners, or on steps, or in doorways, and stare at ladies who are passing—much less make audible remarks upon them.

In public conveyances, all should endeavor to make room for passengers entering, and no gentleman will retain his seat when there are ladies stand-

Never talk politics or religion in a public conveyance.

Never stop to quarrel with the hack-driver. Pay his fare, and dismiss him. Should he be unreasonable or insolent, call the number, and complain to the authorities.

*Etiquette of Visiting.*

Never pay visits on a general invitation. Wait for something more specific. Should one person really desire a visit from another, he will extend an unusual invitation.

When a visit is contemplated, it is best to inform friends in advance of the precise time of your arrival, and not attempt a surprise. A surprise may be sport to you, but very annoying to them.

On arriving in a city where you have friends, do not drive to their house uninvited. Go first to a hotel, and then call, or inform them of your arrival. Should it be convenient, they will invite you to their house.

When friends are coming to visit you, relieve them of all care about baggage on their arrival, by taking charge of checks, etc.

The hostess should share the meals of a guest, however irregular; but a polite guest will conform, as closely as possible, to the customary meal hours. When staying with friends, study to make their domestic arrangements as little as possible.

It is the correct thing after breakfast to leave visitors largely to their own devices, unless some special arrangement has been made. But the hostess should introduce her visitors to the piano, portfolio, library—any device for passing the time pleasantly. And the visitors should accept this hint, and leave her morning hours for imperative domestic duties.

When any of your visitors have other friends in the city, it is a kindly courtesy to inform them of their presence in your city, and to invite them to call, or dine, or take tea during the visit.

Do not be grossly impertinent and rude to question a child or servant about family affairs.

Never entertain visitors with an account of your servant's shortcomings.

It is extremely rude to make injudicious comparisons between the house in which you are visiting, and other homes with which you may be acquainted.

Do not trespass on the good nature of your friends by taking children with you uninvited.

When visiting friends, put out your washing and other extra work you may require to have done.

Appear to be satisfied with whatever arrangements have been made for your comfort.

Do not act as though you considered your friend's house a hotel. In case there is plenty of servants, let them wait on you as on others. But, should it be otherwise, let it be your care to do all in your power to lighten her labors during your stay.

When so unfortunate as to break or injure any article of furniture, when visiting a friend, have it repaired, or replaced at once at your own expense.

Do not invite friends who call to remain for meals, but leave that wholly to the discretion of your hostess.

*Etiquette of the Toilet—Details.*

*Bathing.*—The first and most essential toilet requisite is unquestionably the bath. The most scrupulous and thorough cleanliness of person is an indispensable characteristic of every lady and gentleman. And this is quite as necessary to health and comfort as to decency. Without this, all other culture will prove unavailing. Every part of the body should be carefully and thoroughly washed each day in summer, and quite frequently in winter, and this should be followed by a brisk rubbing of the skin with crash towels. A little ammonia in the water renders the process more cleansing and invigorating. The particular form of the bath is less important than its regularity and thoroughness. And brisk rubbing is exceedingly beneficial.

*The Care of the Teeth.*—The teeth should be carefully brushed night and morning, using pure soap and soft water, and this should be followed by many do this after each meal, which is still better. Those who do this will require no powders, which are apt to injure the enamel, nor are they likely to suffer from toothache. Should tartar collect on the teeth, or the teeth

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them quietly for what you want—not loudly or rudely.

*Street Etiquette.*  
In walking with ladies in the street, gentlemen should treat them with the most scrupulous politeness. Give them the inside of the walk, unless where the outside would be the safer or cleaner.

It is not usual to offer the arm to a lady in daylight, unless she is in feeble health; but the arm should always be offered to a lady when her safety, comfort or convenience seems to require it.

When a lady, accompanied by a gentleman, wishes to enter a store or other public place, he will hold the

ing. No lady will accept a seat, vacated by a gentleman for her convenience, without a smile, or thanks. Gentlemen should pass up ladies' fairs. A lady should always have an escort after night fall, both for safety and etiquette.

No gentleman may smoke when walking with ladies. No lady will indulge the vulgarity of sucking the head of her parasol in the street.

To eat anything, even confectionery, in the street, is decidedly ill-bred. Violent swinging of the arms, when walking in the street, is an ill-bred habit.



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