

Judging By Appearance.

When Maine was a district of Massachusetts, Ezekiel Whitman was chosen to represent the district in the Massachusetts Legislature. He was an eccentric man, and one of the best lawyers of his time. He owned a farm, and did much work on his land; and when the time came for him to set out for Boston, his best suit of clothes was a suit of homespun. His wife objected to his going in that garb, but he did not care.

"I will get a nice suit made as soon as I reach Boston," he said. Reaching his destination, Whitman found rest at Doolittle's City Tavern. Let it be understood that he was a graduate of Harvard, and at this tavern he was at home. As he entered the parlor of the house he found several ladies and gentlemen assembled, and he heard the following remark from one of them: "Ah, here comes a countryman of the real homespun genius. Here's fun."

Whitman stared at the company and then said: "Say, my friend, are you from the country?" remarked one of the gentlemen. "Ya-as," answered Ezekiel with a ludicrous twist of the face. "And what do you think of our city?" asked one of the ladies. "It's a pretty well settled place any how. It's got a sweepin' sight of house'n in it."

"And a good many people too." "Ya-as, I should guess so." "Many people where you come from?" "Wal, some."

"Plenty of ladies, I suppose?" "Ya-as, a fair sprinklin'." "And I don't doubt that you are quite a beau among them." "Yes, I beas 'em home, tew meetin', and singin' skowl."

"Perhaps the gentleman from the country will take a glass of wine?" "Thank'ee. Don't keer if I do." The wine was brought. "You must drink a toast." "O git out! I eat toast, never heard of sich a thing as drinkin' it. But I can give you a sentiment."

The ladies clapped their hands; but what was their surprise when the stranger, rising, spoke calmly and clearly as follows: "Ladies and gentlemen, permit me to wish you health and happiness, with every blessing earth can afford; and may you grow better and wiser in advancing years, bearing ever in mind that outward appearances are deceitful. You mistake me, from my dress, for a country body, while I, from the same superficial cause, thought you were ladies and gentlemen. The mistake has been mutual."

He had just finished when Caleb Strong, Governor of the State, entered, and inquired for Whitman. "Ah, here I am, Governor. Glad to see you." Then turning to the dumbfounded company, he said: "I wish you a very good evening."

About the Princes of Wales. In relation to the Prince of Wales's good nature, it is told that he was one evening attracted to the scene of a London fire, and finding that neither he nor the little group of gentlemen with him had a fusee with which to light his cigar, accepted a light from a quick-witted reporter, who stood near. He lighted his cigar and then held out his case to the reporter, and coolly asked him to help him self. The other, trembling with delight, took a cigar; but instead of lighting it, he extracted an echo from his pocket, carefully wrapped the princely gift in it, and buried the parcel in his bosom. "What are you doing?" asked the astonished Prince. "Why don't you smoke it?" "Your Royal Highness," replied the other, "Heaven forbid that I should ever smoke the cigars you have just given me. I shall ensure it is up amongst the things I value most, and leave it to my children as a precious heirloom."

The Prince laughed. "Well," said he, "again offering his cigar-case to your heirs, but take care not to smoke now. They are good weeds, and I think you'll like them." The poor newspaper man heard and obeyed. He took a cigar, and in a reverent date silently smoked it. And it is further related that when he died not long ago, the precious cigar was found under his pillow carefully preserved.

It is well understood and admitted that sunlight is nearly as essential to human health as pure air. No person who lives in a dark room can be well. Sunlight is just as necessary to animal health and thrift as it is to human. No farm stock will do as well in a dark stable into which the sun cannot penetrate as it would in a bright, sunny one. Therefore we can't afford to not put plenty of windows into our stables. During the winter our best stock cannot well stay in the yard more than three or four hours a day. It needs at least six hours of sunlight, and it should get the best through the stable windows. But in putting in windows don't do it in such a shiftless way as to leave cracks which will admit too much cold. Our cattle need both warmth and light and one should not be sacrificed to the other.

At bedtime little Willie was saying his usual prayer at his mother's knee, and having got as far as "if I should die before I wake," hesitated. "Well what next?" asked his mother. "Why, mamma, I suppose the next thing would be a funeral."

"Look a here! What d' you give your loss for the boys?" "I give him a pint of turpentine." "Next day—'Look a here! I give my loss a pint of turpentine, 'n it killed him 's dead 's a hammer." "So it did mine."

Feed pigs, not hogs, if you want to make it profitable. We often see accounts of pigs which dress from two to four hundred, at eight or nine months of age. There can be no doubt but there is profit in feeding such animals. Pigs should be kept steadily growing from the time of their birth until they are slaughtered, and receive their proper feed every day. Milk is the best food at first, then a little bran and meal may be added. Bran should form a part of the daily feed from first to last, as it will keep them more healthy. They should be fed all that they will eat up clean during all stages of their growth.

To find the number of bushels in a heap of grain multiply the slant height in feet and parts by itself, the perpendicular height by itself, then the difference of these two products by the perpendicular height, and deduct one-sixth from the remainder. If against one side of the house, take one-half of that; if against two sides, or in a corner, take one-fourth. This rule will be found correct, if the heap be first thrown up as high as it will stand, and the measures accurately taken, which can be done in this form better than any other. The contents of a box or bin of grain may be obtained in bushels sufficiently accurate by multiplying the length, breadth and height together and taking one-fifth of the product.

Whipping in Schools in Germany. I cannot quit the subject of education, says a Berlin correspondent of the *Revue Britannique*, without pointing out a curious fact characteristic of German manners. I mean the agitation which exists in a great number of the school circles relative to the re-establishment of corporal punishment for children. The new laws having prescribed fines for both the institutions and the professors who have recourse to such means of repression, the latter consider this an infringement of their rights and authority. They contend that it is impossible for them to enforce obedience without corporal punishment, and petition to this effect have been sent to the Reichsrath.

Visitors of the Paris shops and flower markets frequently remark the profuse way in which many of the roses are flowered in pots; while even many good cultivators here, who attempt a similar culture, frequently find their specimens running all to stem and leaf, while flowering but very sparsely. French cultivators secure profuse bloom simply by selecting the buds from stubby, flowering shoots. These buds taken from comparatively weak, free flowering and dwarf shoots, produce quantities of bloom, while those taken from long "water-shoots" produce little besides flowerless and useless wood.

As a window plant, there is nothing that will give more bloom than a verbena. Let it be trained on a trellis, and give it all the sun possible; the more sun, the more bloom. It came originally from South America, and was introduced into England about the year 1825. In its native home it grows on dry hills, and one great fault in growing verbena with us is the practice of watering too copiously. Damp not only produces mildew but rots the roots, and thus destroys the plant or prevents disease. Pinch the shoots to prevent it becoming too rambling.

As to the best method of tempering mill picks, the editor of the *Scientific American* says: "Select good cast steel. Forge carefully, using a low heat, and light blows. To harden, get two gallons of rain water, add two pounds of salt. Take off the chill of the water by plunging a hot iron into it. Heat the pick gradually from the centre, and plunge the point vertically into the water, letting the heat toward the ends drive the temper. Draw to a 'red' or 'copper color.'"

During 1877 no less than twenty-six centenarians died in the United States. Their aggregate age was 2,922 years. The oldest among them was Captain Lantush, who died last April in New York at the age of 111. One of the most interesting cases was that of Augustin Picard, who died at Rochester, New York, at the age of 103. His father is said to have lived to the age of 108 and his mother to 104. His sister, 109 years old, is still alive in Quebec. The deceased was an inveterate smoker and scarcely ill a day in his life. Of the whole twenty-six no less than fifteen were women, and of the eleven men one was colored.

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