

Criticism.

Human nature seems to delight to sit in judgment upon its fellows. It is easy to criticize the minister, the church, the school, the world in general. Of course, we cannot be intelligent human beings without having definite opinions, but these are sometimes needlessly or harshly expressed.

A prominent Christian said once to a young convert, "Do you know that people say you are always blowing your own horn?" That injudicious remark nearly sealed the lips, for forty years, of one of Boston's most godly men.

D. L. Moody was right when he said, "It don't take brains or heart to find fault." Nothing is easier than to sit in one's parlor and write letters to public journals blaming young women because they will not go out to domestic service. Would the writers go if they were poor and similarly circumstanced? When ladies themselves treat girls in the kitchen as politely as those who sell ribbons and laces, and teach their sons to be courteous likewise, the word "servant-girl" will have a different meaning from what it now has.

The world is not won by denunciation. Tell a boy that he is disagreeable, and how quickly one has lost influence over him. We must commend the good in people, and kindly pray over and reason about the bad. Most persons can be led, few driven. Law is essential, and obedience, but true justice is always tempered with mercy.

I know a family where the wife is continually telling the husband and children of their shortcomings; how they fail in mental development, in good manners and in success, and the peace and happiness of that home may well be imagined. It is quite as easy to say to a child, "I am glad you are not rough as some are," as to say, "Why do you always talk so loudly and be so impolite?" It is quite as easy to say to a husband, "I am glad to have you come early," as to say, "Why are you always late?" We lead people naturally up to the very things which we commend in them. We trust people and they become worthy of our trust. Harshness is the poorest policy possible, if we desire to win. So antagonize people that they dislike you, and your power has gone. The man whom you have alienated proves to be in his case out of ten, the very one who would have been valuable to you in some business or social success. He could have helped you to a position, rather than hindered. As we grow older we learn as we never knew in youth, that lives are like bricks in a building. They are put together by the Master-builder, each dependent upon the other.

If you wish a servant to be neat, notice and speak pleasantly of it when he or she is so. It is very easy to complain when things do not please, and quite as easy to forget to commend when they are well done. Many a child has grown indifferent and calloused in heart from being constantly found fault with. Many a man, like General Garfield, has been helped to greatness because of a word of encouragement, such as he received from Dr. Robinson, who urged him to get an education. John B. Gough came to eminence because a friendly hand laid upon his shoulder. John G. Whittier owed his inspiration largely to Garrison's commendation of his first poem. Captain James B. Eads got his taste for engineering from a book furnished him by his bachelor employer, when a boy in his store.

We are creatures largely of circumstances, and liable to change in a day. Therefore, all the more need of charity in our criticism. A prominent author once ridiculed Lydia H. Sigourney, because, in the blindness of her sympathetic heart, she often wrote obituary poems. By and by a petted child died in the author's home. Mrs. Sigourney sent to the crushed family some tender verses. Nothing could have been more comforting. The poet was never ridiculed afterward. A leading family of my acquaintance were opposed to women speaking in church, till their own daughter, cultured and noble, was led into public work, and their opinions changed at once.

We shall not hold the same opinions on scores of subjects twenty years from now that we have at present. When we are tempted to any harsh things in private, or on the platform, we might wisely remember the words of the old rabbi, who was awakened by one of his twelve sons, who said, "Behold! My eleven brothers lie sleeping, and I am the only one who wakens to pray in the still watches of the night." "Son," said the wise father, "you had better sleep too than wake to censure your brothers."—Sarah K. Bolton.

Lincoln's Good Sense. Abraham Lincoln is on record, in his peculiar way, on the system of competitive examinations. The colored troops raised directly by the general government during the war were officered through competitive examinations, and, as was generally admitted, were remarkably well officered, too. But it would occasionally happen that a young college student, by committing Cley's tactics, and shying out his mathematical and historical knowledge to good advantage, would get a captaincy or majority before he could shoulder arms and march a company out to the parade ground. And often a man peculiarly fitted to command, with a special relish for fighting and perfect in the maneuvering of a regiment or brigade, but unfamiliar with the characters of ancient history and ignorant of logarithms, would fall of securing a second lieutenantcy. One of the latter class once, in his perplexity, applied to Mr. Lincoln, and that man of wonderful discernment and practical sense sent him to Secretary Stanton with this note: "I desire that Mr. should be appointed to the colonelcy of a colored regiment, although he may not know the exact shade of Julius Caesar's hair."

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"That Crooked Little Old Woman."

"Let me turn the horse here and go up the other road," said my beautiful and dainty Boston cousin, as we were leisurely driving along through a lonely and picturesque locality in Norfolk county, Massachusetts. "We shall be sure to see that crooked, wretched old woman gardener at her dirty work if we keep along the turnpike."

"Do you refer to Miss Wheeler?" I asked in surprise.

"Yes," replied my cousin, deftly drawing the crimson and yellow webbing of the reins through her jeweled hands. "I believe that is the name. You have often seen her browsing around in her garden, of course."

"Oh, yes," I answered, "but cousin Mabel, you do not know her as I do, and you entirely mistake her character and condition. She is not 'wretched' at all, but on the contrary, she is the neatest, most cheerful, and the very happiest person in my circle of acquaintances. Her face and form, I admit, would not constitute a poet's ideal of female beauty. Her gowns are faded by the sun, to be sure, but they are clean and tidy. Her hands and face are browned from her out-of-door employment, and her back is humped by illness in early youth, for she was an invalid until she was forty years old."

"About that time, one spring, a neighboring physician who chanced to see her, told her she must make up her mind to die within the next four months or else pass the greater part of her time out of doors, for seclusion and confinement in her cramped up quarters had nearly killed her. The alternative was hard for her to take, as she was fond of books and fancy work and had dainty, refined tastes. But she was a Christian woman and believed it to be her duty to try, by every means in her power to prolong the life which her Creator had given her, not only to be a blessing to herself but to others."

"She was very fond of flowers, and at first busied herself about them. She soon became interested in her vegetable garden, and she found that she could earn considerable money in the cultivation of small fruits as well as by raising early vegetables. Besides, she knew that in order to content herself in her new out-of-door life she must be employed. Before the succeeding fall she found herself in greatly improved health. That was twenty years ago; and now, at sixty, she says she has enjoyed twenty years of perfect health and consequent happiness. She will tell you that there is not a woman of her age in this country so strong and well and happy in every respect as she. She now owns the comfortable and roomy, enlarged and modernized house she lives in, as well as the garden plot, orchard and adjacent wood lot, and does all the work outdoors and in."

"It cannot be said that she lives alone, because she extends the shelter of her roof and the provision of her board at times to this and that homeless one with whom she comes in contact, and who is sick or tired or thrown out of employment."

"The pastor of the church to which she belongs, and to which she goes on the Sabbath and on the occasion of the week-day meeting on foot in nearly all kinds of weather, told me the other day that the little white house among the trees was a very haven of rest both to the body-weary and the heart-weary, and that the little bent figure flitting about was the presiding angel."

"Oh," said my cousin, "let us drive past her house by all means and see if we cannot get a glimpse of the dear, kind, happy old lady." So, driving onward, we soon found ourselves in front of the low gate of the little house, where a bouquet of bright, choice flowers was placed in our hands by this dear disciple, whom the blessed religion of Jesus Christ prompts to work, day in and out, to give of the fruit of her labors to the homeless and needy, and to neglect no opportunity of speaking a word for the master who has given her the gracious privilege of being one of the most useful, if one of the most humble of his hand-maidens.—Mrs. Annie A. Preston.

Extravagance. In our opinion, girls are just as willing to give up their extravagance in dress as young men are—that is, when it is necessary so to do. To the fact that men are so unwilling to relinquish their pet vices and luxuries is to be ascribed much of the falling off of matrimony. Marriage without adequate means of support is a blunder that is almost a crime; but no girl made of ordinary stuff will hesitate to share the trials and sacrifices of the man she loves, provided he has that competence, however modest. The thousands of happy, smiling homes, where true love constantly abides, in spite of the slenderness of the family income, sufficiently attest the readiness of average women to surrender the baubles of wealth and fashion in order to become a devoted wife and mother. If the opposite sex were uniformly animated by a similar spirit, we venture to assert that the number of maids and bachelors would rapidly diminish. The truth is, there is too much love of dress and pretentious display in both sexes, and women should not bear the blame alone.

If the mistress of the household is inclined to be extravagant in her expenditures, her servants, who are quick imitators, will soon follow her example, and make sad waste of the materials put into their hands. The improvident class, from which our help mostly come, soon learn the lessons taught by such example, and become careless of the property of the employer, even when they have no thought of appropriating anything to their own use. But such lessons, it should be remembered, make our employes, of both sexes, totally unfit to manage a home of their own, or save enough, when family cares come upon them to keep them from the poor house. How many of us have seen what wretched, incompetent creatures those girls become after marriage who have lived in wealthy families, with a great abundance to work with and no cautions from their employer to use it discreetly and with a true economy. They are incapable of making the most of their small possessions. If they had been taught economy, and how best to manage their own earnings, they could help their husbands to build up little comfortable homes for themselves and rear and educate their children with such care that they might become among our most influential citizens. But unless those wealthy ladies with whom they took their first lessons were those who feel the true responsibility of their positions and the guidance they owe to their servants, when the untutored damsels marry they drift as helpless as a rudderless ship in a storm, and year by year sink down into deeper poverty and wretchedness, ending perhaps, in a pauper's grave—ruined for life by the extravagant habits learned before marriage.

"Your Wife Begs It."

It is related that in the early days of her wedded life, Queen Victoria had one of those squabbles with her husband, of the sort which will come about sometimes even between the most loving couples. Chagrined and vexed the prince retired to his room and locked the door. The queen took the matter quietly for awhile, but after the lapse of an hour she went to his door and rapped.

"Albert," she said, "come out."

"No, I will not," answered the prince, within. "Come, go away; leave me alone."

The royal temper waxed hot at this. "Sir," she cried, "come out at once. The queen, whose subject you are, commands you."

He obeyed immediately. Entering the room she designated, he sat down in silence. For a long time nothing was said. The queen was the first to break the silence.

"Albert," she said, "speak to me."

"Does the queen command it?" he asked.

MAN. The average weight of an adult man is 140 pounds and six ounces. The average weight of a skeleton is about 14 pounds. Number of bones 240. The skeleton measures one inch less than the height of the living man. The average weight of brains of a man is three and one-half pounds; of a woman two pounds and eleven ounces. The brain of a man exceeds twice that of any other animal. The average height of an Englishman is five feet nine inches; of a Frenchman, five feet six inches; and of a Belgian five feet six and three quarter inches. Average weight of an Englishman is 150 pounds; of a Frenchman, 136 pounds; and of a Belgian 140. The average number of teeth is thirty-two. A man breathes about twenty times a minute, or 1,200 times in an hour. A man breathes about eighteen pints of air in a minute or upwards of seven hogsheads in a day. A man gives off 408 per cent. carbonic gas of the air he respire; 10,666 cubic feet of carbonic acid gas in twenty-four hours; consumes 10,667 cubic feet of oxygen in twenty-four hours. A man actually contributes to vegetation 124 pounds of carbon. The average pulse in infancy is 120 per minute; in manhood, eighty, at sixty years, sixty. The pulse of females is more frequent than of males. The weight of the circulating blood is about twenty-eight pounds. The heart beats seventy-five times a minute, sends nearly ten pounds of blood through the veins and arteries each beat; makes four beats while we breathe once. Five hundred and forty pounds, or one hogshead and one-half pints of blood pass through the heart in twenty-four hours. One thousand ounces of blood pass through the kidneys in one day. One hundred and seventy-four thousand holes or cells are in the lungs which would cover a surface thirty times greater than the human body.—Extracts from an old Volume.

"Nothing."

There is no answer so provoking as the stereotyped phrase 'nothing.' 'What were you saying my dear?' 'Oh, nothing.' 'What were you laughing at?' 'Nothing.' 'What are you muttering, sir?' 'Nothing.' And so it goes through a whole range of battled inquiry. When Jeremiah Mason, the celebrated New Hampshire lawyer, who was Webster's master, lay on his death-bed he heard his daughter speaking. He roused up and inquired, "Mary, what did you say?" "Nothing, papa," she replied. The old spirit of the examiner woke in him, and he said, "Mary, what words do you use to say nothing?" Here in an admirable formula for defeating the answer 'nothing' when used as a rejoinder to one large class of questions.

Two Curious War Relics. In a glass case in the Windsor Museum there is a section of an oak which stood inside the rebel intrenchments near Spottsylvania Court House, Virginia, which was cut down by musket balls. To know just how many shots were required to accomplish this might be an interesting problem to figure on. Another curious relic of the late war are two minie balls fired from the opposing forces and which met in mid-air. They are flattened and are as firmly united as they had been welded together. They were found near Petersburg, Virginia.—Washington Republican.

A graceful compliment is like a strain of beautiful music. M. Menage, a very learned Frenchman, while talking to Mme. Sevigne, held her hand in his. When he dropped it at the end of the conversation a gentleman who was standing by watching the scene, said "M. Menage, you are justly celebrated and that is the finest piece of work that ever came from your hands."

The law of the harvest is to reap more than you sow. Sow an act, and you reap a habit, sow a habit and you reap a character; sow a character, and you reap a destiny. Now often is our dissatisfaction with the world but dissatisfaction with ourselves; and the hands that were turned against us, being grasped, prove our own two. A four year old child, who, while visiting, saw bellows used to blow an open fire, informed her mother that they shovel wind into the fire down to aunt Augusta's.

Love does not aim simply at the conscious good of the beloved object; it is not satisfied without perfect loyalty of the heart. It aims at its own completeness.

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Columbus Post Office. Open on Sundays from 11 A. M. to 12 M. and from 4:30 to 6 P. M. Business hours except Sunday 6 A. M. to 8 P. M. Eastern mails close at 11 A. M. Western mails close at 4:15 P. M. Mail leaves Columbus for Madison and Norfolk, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 7 A. M. Arrives at 6 P. M. For Monroe, Genoa, Waterville and Albion, daily except Sunday 6 A. M. Arrive, same, 6 P. M. For Postville, Farrar, Dakdale and Newman's Grove, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 6 A. M. Arrives Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, at 6 P. M. For Shell Creek and Creston, on Mondays and Fridays, 7 A. M., returning on Tuesdays and Saturdays. For Alexis, Patron and David City, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 7 P. M. Arrives at 12 M. For St. Anthony, Prairie Hill and St. Bernard, Fridays, 9 A. M. Arrives Saturdays, 3 P. M.

U. P. Time Table. Eastward Bound. Emigrant, No. 6, leaves at 6:25 a. m. Passenger, " 4, " " 11:36 a. m. Freight, " 8, " " 2:30 p. m. Freight, " 10, " " 4:30 p. m. Westward Bound. Freight, No. 5, leaves at 2:00 p. m. Passenger, " 3, " " 4:27 p. m. Freight, " 7, " " 6:30 p. m. Emigrant, " 7, " " 1:30 a. m. Every day except Saturday the three lines leading to Chicago connect with U. P. trains at Omaha. On Saturdays there will be but one train a day, as shown by the following schedule: B. & M. TIME TABLE. Leaves Columbus, 8:30 A. M. Bellwood, 8:50 " " " " 9:15 " " " " 9:31 " " " " 9:55 " " " " 10:15 " " " " 10:30 " " " " 10:46 " " " " 11:00 " " " " 11:18 " " " " 11:37 " " " " Arrives at Lincoln, 12:00 M. Leaves Lincoln, 12:20 P. M. and arrives in Columbus 4:30 P. M. O. N. & B. H. ROAD. Time Schedule No. 4. To take effect June 2, '81. For the government and information of employees only. The Company reserves the right to vary the schedule at pleasure. Trains daily, Sundays excepted. Outward Bound. Inward Bound. Columbus 4:25 P. M. Norfolk 7:20 A. M. Lost Creek 5:21 " Madison 7:47 " Pl. Centre 5:42 " Madison 8:26 " Humphreys 5:45 " Pl. Centre 8:35 " Madison 7:04 " Pl. Centre 9:48 " Munson 7:43 " Lost Creek 10:09 " Norfolk 8:04 " Columbus 10:55 "

SOCIETY NOTICES. EP Cards under this heading will be inserted for \$3 a year. G. A. R.—Baker Post No. 9, Department of Nebraska, meets every second and fourth Tuesday evenings in each month in Knights of Honor Hall, Columbus. JOHN HAMMOND, P. C. D. D. WADSWORTH, ADJT. H. P. BOWER, Sec'y. MAJ.

FARMERS, YOUR ATTENTION IS CALLED TO THE Grand Opening! of ELLIOTT & LUERS' MAMMOTH IMPLEMENT HOUSE (Morrises & Klock's old stand on Olive Street.) Where you find one of the largest and best stocks of Farming Implements kept in Columbus. We handle nothing but the best machinery in the market, such as the following: Buckeye Harvesters REAPERS AND MOWERS, Tincon Buggies and Spring Wagons, FARM WAGONS, SULKY PLOWS, STIRRING PLOWS, HARROWS, CULTIVATORS, CORN PLANTERS.

THE BURLINGTON ROUTE! NORTH-EAST OR SOUTH-EAST VIA THE B. & M. R. R. This Road together with the C. B. & Q. which is called The BURLINGTON ROUTE! Forms the most complete line between Nebraska points and all points East of Missouri River. Passengers taking this line cross the Mo. River at Plattsmouth over the Plattsmouth Steel Bridge, which has lately been completed. Through Day Coaches. Pullman Sleeping Cars. ARE RUN TO— Burlington, Peoria, Chicago and St. Louis. Where close connections are made in Union Depots for all points North, East and South. Trains by this route start in Nebraska and are therefore free from the various accidents which so frequently delay trains coming through from the mountains, and passengers are thus sure of making good connections when they take the B. & M. route east. Lowest Rates in force in the State, as well as full and reliable information required, can be had upon application to B. & M. R. Agents at all of the principal stations, or to PERCEVAL LOWELL, General Ticket Agent, OMAHA, NEB. This Space is Reserved FOR— GREISEN BROS., Boots and Shoes.

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