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will be discontinued when the subscription expires.
D. B. SNOW, Editor.

Poetry.

IF I CHOOSE.

If I choose to love a maid,
What is that to you, I pray?
Do you think I am afraid
Of your sneers?
And your jeers?
Do you think so, say?

If I choose to wind my heart
Nestle round and round her own,
What is that to you, upstart,
That you go
Scolding so,
Leaving me alone?

She is humble, it is true,
And perhaps not rich in gold;
What is that, I ask, to you,
That your eyes
Look surprise,
And your voice grows cold?

You're a fool, and I am wise;
You love money—I love her;
What care you which I most prize?
Go at once,
Sordid dunce,
I'll not hear you, sir.

What care I for gems and gold?
Bring them peace and happiness;
Bring they youth when we are old?
Bring they ought
That is sought,
A human heart to bless?

No! but true love brings them all;
It is full of blessing rare—
It brings joy that does not pall,
Pleasures bright,
Sweet delight,
Antidotes for care.

So I'll love my gentle maid,
And you shall not say me nay;
Do not think I am afraid
Of your sneers,
And your jeers,
For a moment, pray.

Miscellaneous Selections.

MANNER—PRACTICAL DIRECTIONS.

Though good breeding is always and everywhere essentially the same, there are phases of daily life, especially demanding its exhibition. *Manner in the street* is one of these.

Even in hours most exclusively devoted to business, do not allow yourself to hurry along with a clouded, absent face, and bent head, as if you forever felt the foot of the earth-god on your neck! Carry an erect and open brow into the very midst of the heat and burden of the day. Take time to see your friends, as they cross you in the busy thoroughfares of life, and, at least by a passing smile or gesture of recognition, give token that you are not resolved into a mere money-making machine, and that both will be better for this fleeting manifestation of the inner being.

During business hours and in crowded business-streets, no man should ever stop another man, whom he knows to be necessarily constantly occupied at such times, except upon a matter of urgent need, and then if he alone is to be benefited by the detention, he should briefly apologize and state his errand in as few words as possible.

But the habit of a cheerful tone of voice, a cordial smile, and friendly grasp of the hand, when meeting those with whom one associated in social life, is not to be regarded as unimportant.

If you do not intend to stop, when meeting a gentleman friend, recognize him as you approach, by a smile, and touching your hat, salute him audibly with—"Good morning, sir," or, "I hope you are well, sir," or (more familiarly), "Ah, Charley, good morning to you." But don't say, "How do you do, sir," when you cannot expect to learn, nor call back as you pass, something that will cause him to linger, uncertain what you say.

If you wish to stop a moment, especially in a thoroughfare, retain the hand you take, while you retire a little out of the human current; and never fall into the absurdity of attempting to draw a tight or moistened glove while another waits the slow process. It is better to offer the gloved hand as a rule, without apology, in the street.

If you are compelled to detain a friend, when he is walking with a stranger, briefly but politely apologize to the stranger, and keep no one "in duress" longer than absolute necessity requires. When thus circumstanced yourself, respond cheerfully and courteously to the apology phrase offered, and drawing a little aside, occupy yourself with anything beside the private conversation that interrupts your walk.

Sometimes circumstances render it decorous to pass on with some courteous phrase, to step into some neighboring bookseller's, etc., or to make a rapid appointment for a re-union. Cultivate the quick discernment, the ready tact, that will engender *manner* under those and similar circumstances requiring prompt action.

Never leave a friend suddenly in the street, either to join another, or for any other reason, without an apology; the briefest phrase, expressed in a cordial tone, will suffice, in an emergency.

Upon passing servants or other inferiors in station, whom you wish to recognize, in the street, it is a good practice, without bowing or touching the hat, to salute them in a kindly voice.

When you meet a gentleman whom you know, walking with one or more ladies, with whom you are not acquainted, bow with grave respect to them also.

Politeness requires that upon meeting ladies and gentlemen together, with both of whom one is acquainted, that one should lift the hat as he approaches them, and bowing first to the ladies, include the gentleman in a sweeping motion, or a succeeding bow, as the case permits. Should you stop, speak first to the lady, but do not offer to shake hands with a lady in full morning costume, should your glove be dark colored or your hand uncovered. Again lift your hat to each, in succession of age or rank, as a substitute for this dubious civility, with some playful expression, as "I am sorry my glove is not quite fresh, Mrs. —, but you need no assurance of my being always the most devoted of your friends" or "admirers," or "Really, Miss —, you are so beautifully dressed, and looking so charmingly, that I dare not venture too near!" And as you part, again take your hat quite off, letting the party pass you, and on the wall side of the street if that be practicable.

In the street with other men, carefully give that precedence to superior age or station which is so becoming in the young, by taking the outer side of the pavement, or that nearer the counter current, as circumstances may make most polite. When you give, or have an arm, carefully avoid all erratic movements, and keep step, like a well-trained soldier!

Towards ladies, in the streets, the most punctilious observance of politeness is due. Walking with them, one should, of course, assume the relative position best adapted to protect them from inconvenience or danger, and carefully note and relieve them from the approach of either. In attending them into a store, etc., always give them precedence, holding the door open from without, if practicable. If compelled to pass before them, to attend to this courtesy, say, "allow me," or "with your permission," etc. Meeting ladies, the hat should be taken off as you bow, and replaced when you have passed, or, if you pause to address them, politely raised again as you quit them.

When you are stopped by a lady friend in the streets, at once place yourself so as best to shield her from the throng, if you are in a crowd, or from passing vehicles, etc., and never by your manner indicate either surprise or embarrassment upon such an occasion. Allow her to terminate the interview, and raise your hat quite off as you take leave of her.

When a stranger lady addresses an inquiry to you in the street, or when you observe something she has inadvertently dropped, touch your hat ceremoniously, and with some phrase or accent of respect, add grace to a civility.

If you have occasion to speak more than a word or two to a lady whom you may meet in walking, turn and accompany her while you say what you wish, and taking off your hat, when you withdraw, express your regret at losing the further enjoyment of her society, or the like.

If you wish to join a lady whom you see before you, be careful in hurrying forward not to inconvenience her (or others indeed), and do not speak so hurriedly, or loudly, as to startle her, or arrest attention, and should you have only a slight acquaintance with her, say as you assume a position at her side, "With your permission, madam, I will attend you," or "Give me leave to join your walk, Miss —," etc.

Of course, no well-bred man ever risks the possibility of intrusion in this way, or ever speaks first to a lady to whom he has only had a passing introduction. In the latter case, you look at a lady as you advance towards her, and await her recognition.

Speaking of an intrusion you should be well assured that you will not make an awkward third, before you venture to attach yourself to a lady and gentleman walking together though you may even know them very well; and the same rule holds good in a picture-gallery, roccoco-shop, or elsewhere, when two persons, or a party, sit or walk together.

Every man is bound by the laws of courtesy, to note any street accident that imperils ladies, and at once to hasten to render such service as the case requires. Promptitude and self-possession may do good service to humanity and the fair, at such a juncture.

Should you observe ladies whom you know, unattended by a gentleman, alighting from or entering a carriage, especially if there is no footman, and the driver maintains his seat, at once advance, hold the door open, and offer your hand, or protect a dress from the wheel, or the like, and bowing, pass on, all needed service rendered; or, if more familiarity and your own wish sanction it, accompany them where they may chance to be entering.

No general rule can be laid down respecting offering the arm to ladies in the street. Where persons are known and reside habitually, local custom will generally be the best guide. At night, the arm should always be tendered, and so in ascending the multiplied steps of a public building, etc., for equally obvious reasons. For similar cause, you go before ladies into church, into a crowded concert-room, etc., wherever, in short, they are best aided in securing seats, and a caping jostling, by this precaution, is avoided. When attending a stranger lady, in visiting the noted places of your own city, or the like, and when one of a party for a long walk, or of travelers, it may often be an imperative civility to offer the arm.

To relatives, or elderly ladies, this is always a proper courtesy, as it is to every woman, when you can thus most effectively secure her safety, or her comfort.

Do not forget when walking with elderly people, or ladies to moderate the headlong speed of your usual step.

I will here enter my most emphatic protest against a practice of which ladies so justly complain,—the too frequent rudeness of men in stationing themselves at the entrance of churches, concert-rooms, opera houses, etc., for the express purpose, apparently, of staring every modest woman who may chance to enter, out of countenance. No one possessed of true good breeding will indulge in a practice so at variance with propriety. If occasion demands your thus remaining stationary upon the steps, or in the portico, of a public edifice, make room, at once, for ladies who may be entering, and avoid any appearance of curiosity regarding them. A similar course is suitable when occupying a place upon the steps, or at the windows of a pump-room, at a watering-place, or at a hotel. Carefully avoid all semblance of staring at ladies passing in the street, alighting from a carriage, etc., and make no comment, even of a complimentary nature, in a voice that can possibly reach their ears. So, when walking in the street, if beauty or grace attract your attention, let your regard be respectful, and, even then, not too fixed. An audible comment or exclamation, addressed to a companion, a laugh, a familiar stare at each and all, when any stranger, and more especially a woman, is the subject of them, unhandsome, in the extreme.

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