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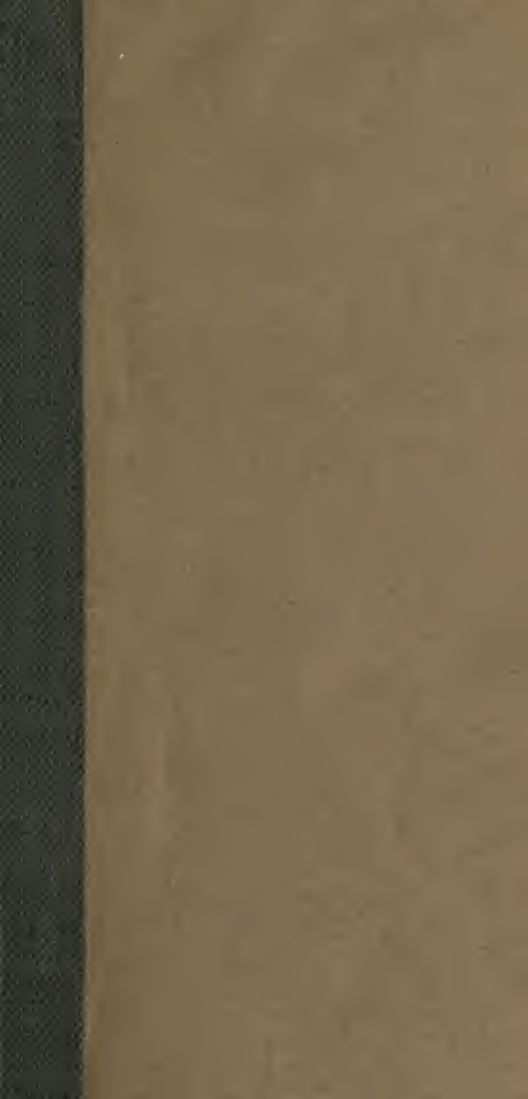


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A person is known by the books he reads,
but much reading is like much eating,—
wholly useless without digestion.

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NO. 10
ANNALS OF THE
AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

The real happiness of life, does not consist of riches or pleasure, but in peace and contentment. On days when we are happy, how blue the sky is, how green the grass! Life to be perfect should be something more than work, some rest deeper than that which comes from mere cessation of toil. Faith keeps life sweet. Sorrow makes life strong, and love makes life whole.



If all men were reasonable and honest, the world would run smoothly. Everybody would be happier. If all men would realize, that they are fully truly men, and be true to the best that is in them. The true gentleman is a person free from arrogance, and anything like self assertion, always courteous and kind in manner to his inferiors.

If we faithfully and patiently do the duty that is distasteful to us, we may eventually be permitted to do the work we like to do. A judicious mixture of work and play is good for everybody. Think of what you have in life that is good, and what the future may hold for you. The world will then seem full of sunshine. Looking ahead is of great advantage.



Fault-finding is easy, nothing easier. No brains are required, no talent, for complaining. The difficult part of good temper consists in forbearance, and accommodation to the ill-humor of others. Discontent means misery and personal deterioration. If our ills are irreparable, it is foolish to murmur. Discontent is however, the mother of progress, if it is guided by reason. Everyone is placed in this world to make life the better. Find out the good in those around you, and you will gain peace.

Ill humor is the canker of life. It taints and vitiates everything, checks the improvement of life and wears out happiness. Like a pebble thrown into water, it injures not one spot, or one person, but touches all. So I bid you be sweet. If you have been unfortunate, do not think that all the world is against you. Perhaps you have put yourself against the world. It is not hard to do that.



Charity knows not spite, envy, nor covetousness. It has faith in human nature. Stimulate its growth by kindly deeds. Be sympathetic and thoughtful. When not possessed, these traits can be acquired. Give cheering words to encourage, to make others hopeful. They will not soon be forgotten. Charity for others is a great thing.

With each new year comes fresh courage and hope. It is good to think of our past life. We can all derive wisdom from our past errors. Suppose resolutions are broken! It is better so than not to have made them at all. They make an impression even if forgotten. If we did not keep up the practice, there is danger of our becoming calloused. So we will resolve to do better in the future.



Every rose has its thorn. Pain and pleasure, like light and darkness, succeed each other. The sun has spots, and the skies are darkened by clouds. Our mistakes loom up as we try to reach a point. Be not cast down by them or overwhelmed. Trouble comes to all. Many of our ills arise from our own making. Think of your many loving friends, and be happy and glad.

Self-restraint is good discipline. The one who has learned to submit, is the one to control others. The tongue has done untold harm. It has destroyed happiness with its fatal liberty. Self-restraint is of great value to us all. Who does not dread the irritable and self-centered individual, and who does not admire the opposite type?



A careless word, an indifferent look, proves the sensitiveness of the heart. How it hurts! Men sometimes speak to their wives in a way they would not dare to use to a good servant, who would give warning and leave. There is no more ungenerous trait in human nature than the taking advantage of those in our own household who are utterly helpless.

Without doubt, there is great injustice in the distribution of wealth created by labor and capital. Labor will eventually gain a larger share. If the wealthy, the poor, the learned and the unlearned, would come together in charity, each class would be surprised to discover how much it could learn from the other, by working together.



To persons who are trying to live by fraud, we cannot show too little consideration. To lessen injustice, every one should feel as indignant at a wrong as if they were the sufferer. Unworthy people that are shrewd and unscrupulous, don't really get much out of this world that is valuable. For there is no development of the mind or body, for they have no heart.

One can make their own way up stream to any destination against the course of the current, if there is strength in the arms that wield the oars. One has only to settle the question whether they will drift or pull in life's stream. Whether one will be master of their own actions or whether the current will decide for them. Don't drift!



There were women before there were club-women, selfish, self-seeking, emotional; there always will be, but the composite club-woman of to-day is gracious, home-loving, humanity loving, a thoughtful, patriotic woman citizen, that is a large factor in our Nation to-day. All are part of the great whole. The work of the individual club-woman has been of progressive character and of marvelous growth,—and of the highest moral standard.

Women alone are to blame for every discomfort which they suffer in dressing improperly. The needed reforms can only come from women. Clothes—Clothes—We are often judged by the clothes we wear. Human nature has even had the tendency to judge by externals. It isn't in the heart of a woman, to blame another for wanting pretty clothes, the dainty things for which all yearn.



There is not a person on the face of the earth today who likes poverty. There never was such a person, there never will be. Poverty is not a pleasing companion. Being really hard up, gives one a wonderful insight to economy. There is no fun in it, and its being known is a sting. If we accept the inevitable without grumbling, we have accomplished much.

Wet days and cold days can be pleasant days. We can make them cheerful or disagreeable, whether they be dark or sunny. Do not let our discomforts cast a cloud over our home life. No one can live without meeting disappointments. The art of being amicable is very important. Such persons never fail to find a welcome.



As the years come and go, surprises come to all; some are harbingers of joy, some of pain. The bitter and the sweet are closely blended. Our minds vary. Today we are full of pleasant thoughts, and see no reason why we should not have the same thoughts tomorrow. Yesterday our thoughts were weary ones.

Love your country, honor its flag, respect its name, revere its institutions, rejoice in its history, and the promise of its future. The name of Washington is an example of wisdom and virtue. It implies something sacred to the hearts of all, and until time shall be no more, his name shall be a watchword of the world.



The power of habit, forces one to keep on in the old way. If one wishes to free themselves from the chains of habit, drop the habit in the same manner in which it was formed. Within each one lies the cause of whatsoever comes to him. Each one has it in his own power to determine what he shall do. Every improvement comes from real effort. To live wisely is simply to overcome our faults.

Woman can endure suffering better than man. But there is no reason that she should be compelled to do so. She was not created for that purpose in life. This world is woman's kingdom. The nation's future glory rests upon the women of today, in the thoughtful, earnest women who have many manifold duties to perform.



When visiting friends, leave behind fresh and pleasant thoughts. It takes so little to divert one's thoughts. Be a benefit to your friends, a tonic; a sense of humor is a most desirable possession. Saying cheerful things is contagious. Give your friends the chance to think more of you, than of your appearance, by leaving something worth while, the few moments you are with them.

The expression of the inner nature shining through a woman's face is something more than hope or animation. Life's experiences! It is like the perfume to a flower. Faith makes life sweet. Sorrow makes life strong, and love makes life whole. Wholesome thoughts enliven the most ordinary face in a manner to make one forget the features.



A man thinks he knows everything at twenty-one. He begins to realize how little he knows at thirty. He is delightful at thirty-five, and charming at fifty. A woman is charming at eighteen. At twenty-five she begins to attain her physical and mental perfection. At thirty-five her charms are undiminished. Happy is she who uses her noon-time of life to prepare for a peaceful evening.

Laughter is likened to a cooling stream in a desert. Never try to repress a merry person, if their merriment has sprung from pure sources. A good laugh is a true sign of good health and spirits. It is a tonic to every one near. Smile a little—smile a little as you go along—not alone when life is pleasant, but when things go wrong.



Agreeable friends make life pleasant. There are hundreds of people whose chief joy is to help others on. Now it is a smile, now a good word. Such people will have plenty of friends. Confidence and trust are the sweetest things we can give to a friend. If you make good friends, keep them. Be loyal and honest. The pleasure that we bestow is the only pleasure that is absolutely our own.



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