

OVERCOMING A HABIT.

The habit of seclusion was a distinct trait in the family of Nathaniel Hawthorne. One person, however, writes Mrs. Davis in "Bits of Gossip," had no mind to encourage this habit in the great novelist. This was Miss Elizabeth Feabody, Mrs. Hawthorne's sister. It was her mission, she felt, to bring the great novelist out from solitude, where he walked apart, to the broad ways of common sense. Mrs. Davis happened to be present at her grand and last soiree to this end, and describes it as follows:

One evening I was with Mrs. Hawthorne in the little parlor, in Concord, when the children brought in their father. Suddenly Miss Feabody appeared in the doorway. She lit the lamp, went out and brought in more lumps, and then sat down and waited with an air of stern resolution. Presently Mr. Emerson and his daughter appeared, then Louisa Alcott and her father, then two gray old clergymen, who were formally presented to Mr. Hawthorne, who now looked about him with terrified dismay. We saw other figures approaching in the road outside.

"What does this mean, Elizabeth?" Mrs. Hawthorne asked in an aside. "I did it. I went around and asked a few people in to meet our friend here. I ordered some cake and lemonade, too."

Her blue eyes glittered with triumph as Mrs. Hawthorne turned away. "They've been here two years," she whispered, "and nobody has met Mr. Hawthorne. People talk. It's ridiculous! There's no reason why Sophia should not go into society. So I just made an excuse of your visit to bring them in."

The little room was quite full when there ruffled in a woman who came straight to Mr. Hawthorne. I never heard her name, but I knew her at sight as the intelligent questioner who crows you into idleness by her fluent cleverness.

"So delighted to meet you at last!" she said, seating herself beside him. "I have always admired your books, Mr. Hawthorne. And now I want you to tell me all about your methods of work. I want to hear all about it." But at that moment his wife came up and said that he was wanted out side, and he escaped. A few moments later I heard his steps on the floor overhead, and knew that he was safe in the tower for the night.

LANGUAGE OF THE DOGS.

How a Good Hunting Canine Addresses His Master in the Woods.

"It may sound curious to persons not familiar with the pleasures of hunting and know little or nothing of what I may call the language of dogs, the language they use, not among themselves, but when they want to address their masters in the woods, I say it may sound curious to state that the experienced hunter can tell the kind of game treed by the way the dog barks, but he can do precisely this very thing," an old hunter said as he gossiped with a crowd of friends in one of the hotels, according to the New Orleans Times-Democrat.

"Of course, I have reference to the all-around dog, and not the dog that may be trained for a particular kind of sport. There are deer dogs, bear dogs, fox dogs, coon dogs, squirrel dogs and other dogs that have what we would call among human beings specialties and no matter how teeming the game they will not depart from their training to chase only a certain kind of animal. But I was just thinking of the all-around dog, the dog that will chase any old kind of animal."

"I recall a dog of this sort owned by a friend of mine in Arkansas, and he was about the most useful member I ever saw. He was good at any old kind of game in the woods, and was intelligent enough always to know just what his master wanted to hunt. He would tackle anything from a rabbit to a bear and had enough bound in him to always bark when he struck a trail. This barking constituted the language he used when he wanted to notify his master what kind of trail he had struck, and his master would know quite as well as if he had called out the name of the thing. He knew by the way the dog barked."

"If he merely struck a rabbit trail he made little noise, and he was not very noisy on a squirrel's trail, though the bark was somewhat different from that used when he trailed a rabbit. So the coon yelp and the possum yelp were different as to each other and different as to other yelps and a trifle louder than the barking on a rabbit or a squirrel trail. But let him strike a deer trail or a bear trail—well, you would think the world was coming to an end. He would make more noise than a whole pack of dogs."

"The bigger the game, it seems, the louder he would bark. And yet his master could tell from the way the dog intoned his yelp whether he was chasing a bear or a deer, and he wouldn't have to wait either to learn the character and direction of the dog's movements in order to determine what kind of trail he had struck."

As He Understood It. "Did you read that article in yesterday's paper headed 'A Roman Actor'?" asked Brown of his friend Green.

"No," replied Green, whose historical knowledge is limited. "I never read such nonsense. I suppose, though, the woman deserved a licking or the Roman wouldn't have given it to her. Did she have him arrested?"

Values of commodities depend on whether you want to buy or sell.



Mumps.—This complaint is not, as a rule, dangerous, but sometimes very painful. Brain poultices always afford great relief. Fill flannel bags with bran and heat in the oven. The diet during mumps should be liquid. If swallowing is difficult. Sometimes deafness is apt to follow. Be careful that the child does not get into drafts. Warm linseed oil should be gently rubbed into the swollen parts.

Sore Throat.—Those subject to sore throat will find the following preparation simple, cheap and highly efficacious when used in the early stage. Pour a pint of boiling water on thirty leaves of the common sage and let the infusion stand for an hour; add vinegar sufficient to make it pleasantly acid and honey to taste. The mixture should be used as a gargle twice a day. There is no danger if some of it is swallowed.

Celery Cure for Rheumatism.—One of the latest ideas is that celery is a cure for rheumatism. The celery should be cut into pieces and boiled in water until soft, and the water drunk by the patient. Put new milk with a little flour and nutmeg into a saucepan with the boiled celery, serve it warm with a piece of toast, eat it with potatoes, and the painful ailment will soon yield. Such is the declaration of a physician who has again and again tried the experiment, and with uniform success.

Treatment of Burns.—In a serious burn, as soon as the fire is extinguished, the clothes must be removed. If not already thoroughly wet, the injured part should be drenched with water and the clothes cut away. Everything must be sacrificed to getting them off without pulling, as the slightest dragging may bring the skin off, too. If patches of the clothing adhere and will not drop off, they must be allowed to remain. Dip cloths in a thick solution of common washing soda in water and lay them over the burnt surface, bandaging lightly to keep them in place. As soon as a dry spot appears on this dressing, wet it with the soda and water by squeezing some on it. There will be no smarting while it is saturated and excludes the air.

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