

Straightforwardness.

BY LADY COOK, nee TENNESSEE CLAFLIN.

When an ancient was asked, "Of what use is philosophy?" he replied, "It teaches a man how to die." He might have added, and also how to live. The earliest and noblest conceptions that ever existed concerning life and its duties were owed to the Greeks. These have never been surpassed, so that most of our best moral ideas today are the fruits of their philosophy. Pythagoras, it is said, divided virtue into two parts—to seek truth and to do good; but the Greeks were more active with the former than with the latter. It is our moral duty to follow truth, regardless of consequence, whereas it leads. Truthfulness is the highest test of character, and when we add the doing to the seeking after it, we attain the greatest moral excellence. We are then virtuous in thought and deed, ready to follow evidence "even to the most unwelcome conclusions," and to do right whatever may happen. Savages are natural liars. Veracity is the product of civilization. And especially of an industrial civilization. The law of truth so powerfully indicated by Greek philosophers among a comparatively non-industrial people, is one of the marvels of history. Medeval civilization, however, with its legends and fables of the early Christian Church, and the universal lying that followed, obscured the rational teachings of the Greeks, and debased the moral character of Europe. To be a plain, practical, and honest man, and to be a good citizen, is to be a philosopher. There was a slight revival of the love of veracity when chivalry was the mode, but this was chiefly confined to the knightly class. To tell a lie was opposed to the vows of knightliness, but any knight, notwithstanding, he acted as a truth teller. Chivalry was merely a temporary fashion, and knew nothing of philosophy. The reformation was produced from the love of truth and the spirit of free enquiry as much as from the abasement of the Roman Catholic Church, and from the time of its inception, truth and the love of truth and of scientific research, have distinguished Protestant countries throughout the world. But, on the whole, wherever the material dogmas are concerned, we are obliged to believe what our great German historian, Herder, once asserted that the phrase "Christian veracity" deserves to rank with the phrase "Pagan faith." The Romans were pre-eminently truth tellers. They adored good faith, and practiced straightforwardness as a rule, and the lessons of the Stoics produced great results. Rome was feared for its strength, and respected for its honesty. With the decline of fidelity to engagements and of love of truth, its power declined also. For they who had secured the baseness of "Pagan faith" became themselves as false and unreliable as the Carthaginians.

The English have often been termed the Modern Romans. They have the same quality of character, obedience to the law, and love of justice, the same fidelity in ruling their states, the same respect for the solid and the useful, and the same strong tendency of purpose. If the latter themselves about any one thing more than another, it is that they are straightforward. If they praise a friend, they say he is outspoken; if they mean what he says and do not mean to be untruthful, they are open and candid, and give you what is in his mind. It is not like Mr. Facing-bothways, or Mr. Pliable, a shuffling, a deceitful, a Jesuitical talker, disingenuous and unreliable, but a man whom you can trust and trust always as a truthful and upright friend. In a word, he is straightforward. There is a pleasant ring about this word. It is Anglo-Saxon to the core. It suggests the picture of John Bull, not Max O'Reilly, or a downy-faced, florid, healthy, good-natured, and well-to-do man, with good nature and honest in word and work, a candid friend and an open foe. Unfortunately, not only are not all Englishmen like this, but it is much to be feared that straightforwardness is a virtue possessed by the minority, and that the breed of Mr. Facing-bothways is much larger than is ordinarily supposed. If we analyze society into its various classes, we shall see that there is still abundant room for an increase of straightforwardness. We will try a few.

Take parents first. If there are any to whom, above all others, they should be straightforward, it should be to their children. These require the fullest candor of treatment as well as care. But how frequently are their innocent questions which are all-important to them, put off by subtleties or downright falsehood! The mind of the child thirsting for information, dark and desiring enlightenment, hungry for mental food, is poisoned at the outset of its quickening by its own misbegotten parents. It asks for bread, and they give it a stone; for a fish, and they give it a serpent. Or they still their offspring's enquiries by replying, "Little children must not ask so many questions." But how long will that hard falsehood remain a dead-weight upon the child's soul? How long will the serpent of deceit coil around its conscience?

Perhaps until the children are able to solve for themselves, when they in their turn will deceive their parents. They will know much in ways that may not be so wholesome for them as if they had obtained it from their father or mother. Desirable habits will be formed early, and the virtue of straightforwardness thenceforth can never be theirs. When the time arrives they too will deceive their little ones.

Take employers and employed. Are they straightforward with each other? How often are loyalty, fidelity, and the greatest possible services rewarded by a mean employer with the lowest pay and no thanks? How often does it happen that the more valuable and necessary the services rendered, the poorer the door is compensated in order that he may be kept down and be completely dependent? An employer often values his work more than his employees. Of course there are many honorable employers who say, "Well, some good and faithful servants go up higher." But the mean, the grasping, the haughty, the proud, and so the employed, on their side, knowing that the most perfunctory services are frequently best appreciated, become false and ultimately neglectful. Desires follow, and the relations between both become cold and strained. The selfish employer makes the workman selfish, and each loses by it in every direction.

Are politicians straightforward? The question itself will excite a smile. Their straightforwardness is so notorious that it is difficult to follow them. The late John W. Foster was a good example. "Why can they not say straight out what they mean and what they want?" he remarked on a notable occasion. Any man who goes into Parliament resolving to be straightforward and independent of party, is like a lost sheep in the wilderness. No one will hear him or bear him company until he joins one or other of the party flocks. Straightforwardness will impede instead of assist him. He must learn the art of political expediency, then he may get on.

Are lawyers straightforward? Do they advocate the cause in whose justice they believe? Sometimes, no doubt. But generally the successful counsel is he who has no legal conscience, who is indifferent to the merits of a case so long as he is well paid, who can make the fairest laws look black, and torture innocents by cross-examination. He pleads not for right, but for a verdict, and is indifferent to everything except the success of his client. Straightforwardness holds little ground in our law courts.

Are traders and manufacturers straightforward? If they were the Acts regular and honest, the buyers of trademarks would not have been required. Nevertheless, on the whole, these are perhaps much more straightforward than the other classes named, because in their business honesty is always the best policy. It is comparatively uncommon, therefore, to find a just cause of complaint when one deals with a respectable firm in this country, although many dishonest men are doing their best to run the good reputation of our traders and manufacturers throughout the world.

Among religious bodies it is said to find a large amount of what may be called religious dishonesty, or deceptions practiced for "the cause." Tenets are professed which nobody believes. Successes recounted which are based more on imagination than sober fact. The exercise and admission of the Sunday are seldom in accord with those of the week. It is the fashion to be very devout on that day, and very worldly on all the others. If we are scrupulous we worship God about fifty days in the year, and sell or Mammon during the remainder, and in this manner everybody is satisfied.

The home should be the center of happiness, the rest of earthly delight. But how can this be unless husband and wife are frank with each other? If each have secrets, if much of the everyday life of either is artfully concealed from the other, misery is bound to ensue. Here, above all, complete straightforwardness is necessary to avoid misery, for the lack of it denotes the death of love.

This manifold and most womanly of virtues deserves a closer cultivation. Our happiness and self-respect as individuals and as a nation depend upon our possessing it. Without it we are hollow, untrue, a reproach to others and a scorn to ourselves.

"To thine own self be true; And it must follow, as the night the day, Thou canst not then be false to any man."

ALL SORTS.

THE HOME.
A World's Brightness.
A dreary place would be this earth
Were there no little people in it;
The song of life would lose its mirth
Were there no children to begin it.
No little forms, like buds to grow,
And make the admiring heart surrender;
No little hands, on breast and brow,
To keep the thrilling love-threads tender.
No babe within our arms to leap,
No little feet towards slumber tending;
No little knee in prayer to bend,
Our loving lips the sweet words tending.
Life's song, indeed would, lose its charm
Were there no babies to begin it;
A dreary place this world would be,
Were there no little people in it.
—Whittier.

GRANT SAVED TWO NATIONS FROM WAR.

Hon. John Russell Young, a former United States Minister to China, regards General Grant's part in arranging a treaty of peace between China and Japan as one of the shining achievements of his career. Writing of "When Grant Won the World," Mr. Young says Prince Kung, then sort of Regent for China, in his conversations at Peking with General Grant, talked with earnestness upon the relations between China and Japan. This led to a message from the

THE YOUNG MAN

Who Has the Idea That He Is Emperor of Germany.
We see by the newspapers that the young man who thinks himself emperor of Germany has 300 carriages in his stables. It seems to us that "on a pinch" he might get along with 50.
And, by the way, who made Germany an empire?
Was it the father of this erratic youngster?
—A very respectable man, whom we once

PRINCE TO THE MIKADO, AN EXTRAORDINARY INCIDENT

Prince to the Mikado, an extraordinary incident little known in the histories, and the whole business in time to be managed by the general that was between the two nations was postponed. At Nikko, Japan, General Grant met the Japanese minister who came by the Mikado's command to discuss with him the message he had brought from Prince Kung and Li Hung Chang. Count Ito, secretary of the Interior, Count Baigo, the minister of war, Count Inoué, foreign minister, and Mr. Yoshida, the Japanese envoy to Washington, composed the embassy. They sat in a little temple the afternoon sultry, a thunderstorm rattling among the hills, and discussed the issues. In the end a letter was addressed to Prince Kung and the Japanese Prime Minister, containing suggestions which were accepted by both governments. It was a basis of peace not to be broken for many years. So it will be seen that there were many useful days as well as days of pageantry in Japan. General Grant in this became not alone the friend but the companion of the Mikado and his counselors.

POSSIBLY.

Aunt Mchitabie—What's that ditch they're diggin' right in the middle of the street?
Duché Blau—I reckon it must be that burrow of Manhattan that we've read so much about in the city papers.
A POINT TO CONSIDER.
"The railroads are to carry bicycles as baggage."
—Yes, do you suppose they will sign a contract not to bring them back as scrap-iron?

had the pleasure of meeting—or his grand- father, who did not live quite happily with his wife, and was not, in our judgment, quite so respectable.

We answer—neither, but a certain German gentleman by the name of Bismarck, who had more brains than several monarchs boiled down into one.

Governor Seward, when governor of New York, was once riding, seated by the side of the driver, on a stage coach, in the western part of the state, when the driver, thinking him rather an unusual passenger, asked him whether he was a traveling preacher, to which Seward answered, "No." Several lines the driver suggested other kinds of business to all of which Seward responded, "No." He finally asked: "Well, stranger, what air you, anyway?"

"Governor of New York," said Seward. "Oh—git out! You ain't come that on me." "So you don't believe I'm governor of New York?" said Seward.

"Not much."

Just then they were entering a village, and the governor saw ahead a man whom he knew, and asking the driver to stop, said to the man: "Ah! I'm the governor of New York."

"No, by thunder," replied the man.

"Who is that?" said Seward.

"That's you," said the driver.

"So we say the real emperor of Germany, who will go down through all history as such, was, and is not, the young man of 30 carriages, or his father or grandfather, but Bismarck."

—GEO. T. ANSELL.

A DOMESTIC DIPLOMAT.

All our diplomats are not in the diplomatic service, by a long shot. A north side man who is filling out a new residence has experienced considerable trouble in cubbing the expensive tastes of his wife.

"My dear," he said the other night, "how do you stand with the Greek war in Greece?"

"I am against the Hellenic Turk every time," she replied with decision.

"You wouldn't do anything then, to encourage the Turks in any way, would you?"

"I should say not."

"That's what I thought," he said, "so I come to you for a good word for the Turkish cause for the highway and ordered some Japanese mitts."

HOW THEY FOUND THE TACK.

"That's just like you, Emily," said the dweller in interview to his wife, "you've got the tack in the house, and I want to fish fishing up to the surface."

She looked and looked with two lamps and a back answer, but would not talk.

Then the heroic young wife bethought her of an expedient.

She ordered the lights to be extinguished and then, without her shoes she took three steps at random. At the third step she uttered a smothered cry. The tack was found.

A GREAT SCHEME.

"Yes, sir," he remarked enthusiastically, "I've got the greatest scheme on foot now that this county ever saw."

"Oh, indeed?"

"You bet. We're going to organize a company with \$500,000 capital, all paid in. Then we will loan money to farmers at 3 or 4 per cent, interest and take first mortgages on their farms. Credit will be lent. And it'll all work up, no, except the matter."

"And that?"

"We're got to interest somebody in the scheme now, what do you say?"

THE WHY OF IT.

"Perditions woman!" he hissed through his clenched teeth.

"Oh, why do you speak in that manner?" she queried.

"Them well knowers."

Such was probably the fact.

Almost anybody could see his teeth did not fester well, and had to be kept clean if they were to be liked though with any degree of comfort.

EVIDENTLY WORTHLESS.

"That novel of young Kendall's is so earthly good."

"Why do you say that?"

"I look it out on the porch yesterday and somebody stole it."

"I don't see how that proves it worthless."

"Don't you? Well, the thief brought it back."

HAD A RIGHT TO CHARGE.

"I am afraid Mrs. Babcock," said the new lodger, "that I was under a misapprehension when I told you that I would as soon as not have an iron bed in my room."

"Yes," replied the house mistress, with languidly like caution.

"Yes, I was under the impression that you merely referred to this frame."

WHICH MADE HER ANGRY.

"That Mr. Barkley is a mean, hateful thing," said the first pretty girl to the second.

"Why?" asked the second pretty girl, wondering how much the other's new hat cost.

"He kissed me in the dark last night, and then apologized for it."

"How foolish of him!"

A BRUTAL PROCEEDING.

"Well, old man, I guess I better go home. My wife will raise a holy row even as it is."

"Why don't you do as I do when you find you have stayed out too late?"

"What do you do?"

"I just keep staying out until I know she is scared and will be overjoyed to see me."

EXPLAINED.

"So that man says he would lay his fortune at your feet?" said Mabel's father.

"Yes."

"But he hasn't done so."

"No."

"And perhaps you can tell why?"

"I guess, father, he hasn't had it told yet."

INCREDIBLE.

"Poor Chottle's physician," said the Symptom-Girl, with a sigh, "told him that he had narrowly escaped an acute inflammation of the brain."

"That medical man," said the Hardhearted Girl, "is an ignorant. The idea of Chottle's brain developing anything acute."

THE VERY THING.

Mr. Dukane—My physician tells me that my health would be better if I would engage in some kind of business which required traveling.

Mr. Gaswell—Why don't you open an oleomargarine store?

GOOD DESCENT.

"Is he a man of good family?" asked the visitor to the west.

"Best there is," was his reply.

"What's his descent?" inquired the visitor.

"Descent?" repeated the native, evidently puzzled, but only for a minute. "Well, he came down the mountain in a flume once, and I sort of reckon you can't beat that much."

NOT A PIONEER.

"And how comes it," asked the missionary, "that you never eat people of your own race?"

"The face of the cannibal king lies up with a smile."

"I should so hate," he said solemnly "to cultivate a universal desire for that dark-brown taste."

A Man Won Her.

BY AN ASTORIAN WRITER.

It's an awkward thing when master and man are in love with the same girl. One must give way, you see! And if the master in that one, it's apt to be had for the man. Knowing this, John Adams and Emily Bolton resolved to keep their engagements to themselves for a bit, until they could start in life on their own account.

Why the girl had fallen in love with the man instead of his master, it would puzzle a conjurer to tell. I'm sure she couldn't have said herself. It was he, the man! "Ah! I'm the governor of New York."

"No, by thunder," replied the man.

"Who is that?" said Seward.

"That's you," said the driver.

"So we say the real emperor of Germany, who will go down through all history as such, was, and is not, the young man of 30 carriages, or his father or grandfather, but Bismarck."

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HER MANT.

"Queer case in court this afternoon," said the court reporter as he turned up his collar and closed the window.

"What was it?" asked the p-dice reporter.

"A woman was on trial for counterfeiting. She had been marking down \$20 bills to \$10.00."

There are two reasonable things which everybody should do: take good care of one's health; and if lost regain it quickly and to this everybody will agree. And there are a great multitude of people who are agreed that for both purposes Simmons Liver Regulator is the best helper. "I am troubled with torpid liver and nothing gives relief so quick like Simmons Liver Regulator."—R. R. Strang, Lake City, Fla.

PROBABLY LYING.

Wickwire—Either Midge is more humble than any other known man, or he is a liar.

Yabley—Will you please explain?

"He says he doesn't believe he would look well in Knickerbockers."

EQUITABLY ADJUSTING THE MATTER.

"The girl who filled a post and married a butcher did an eccentric thing."

"Not at all," she recognized the great fact that beefsteak is more filling than blank verse."

DUSTY DICK—SAY, BOSS, AIN'T YER GOT ER HALF ER DOLLAR FOR A POOR BLIND GUY?

Old Gentleman—Why, you're only blind in one eye.

Dusty Dick—All right, boss, make it 25 cents den.—Twinkles.

HER NEW HAT.

"Now, miss, it ain't no use yer tryin' for ter hide. I knows ye're under that hat, 'cos I can see yer feet."—Nuggets.

VERY MUCH ATTACHED TO HER DOG.

"Pick Me Up"

CRUELTY MISUNDERSTOOD.

Old Lady (Blue Ribbon)—Do you drink, my good man?

Rustic—Thank'ee, mum; thank'ee, mum. A little drop o' Irish 'ot, mum, would do me nicely, mum!—Sketch.

A MUTUAL WISH.

"Yes I told him," was replied to be married?"

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MAKING MONEY GO.

"You know," she said with a little asperity, "that women have the reputation of being able to make money go further than men."

"That's true," replied the man of small economy, "and it's just what I object to. What I want them to do is to let it keep still where it is and rest a little now and then."

NOT A PIONEER.

"And how comes it," asked the missionary, "that you never eat people of your own race?"

"The face of the cannibal king lies up with a smile."

"I should so hate," he said solemnly "to cultivate a universal desire for that dark-brown taste."

HOBBS

Honest Methods Approved

The Free Distribution of Dr. Hobbs' Sparagus Kidney Pills from the Sale Store of Chas. Rogers Ended Yesterday.

Hundreds Now Testing the Remedy in This City and Vicinity.

WHAT WILL THE RESULT BE?

Last night the distribution of free samples of Dr. Hobbs' Sparagus Kidney Pills closed at the drug store of Charles Rogers and will go into history as one of the most successful events that ever took place in this city. The frightful number of people who are suffering in one way or another from kidney troubles in this vicinity can only be estimated by the enormous number of sample packets which were given out on Saturday to all interested persons living in this city or neighborhood who applied for a sample of these wonderful pills.

Dr. Hobbs' representative was seen last night at his hotel, wearing a look of confidence that betokens a man who feels that he knows what he is talking about. He said, in answer to the questions put to him by the reporter: "Oh, yes; I know the public are skeptical of anything new, especially in the medicine line. It is reasonable to suppose that they should be, for have they not been humbugged enough by those who place but little value on their health, when it comes to the question of gathering in a few ill-gotten dollars. "Dr. Hobbs appreciates all this, and is determined that the worth of his medicine shall be fully known and proven before the public is asked to spend a penny. What Dr. Hobbs' Sparagus Kidney Pills are guaranteed to do is to cure all kidney derangements.

"Do you know that rheumatism, in nine-tenths of all cases, arises from kidney troubles of one sort or another? Any physician will tell you that the common origin of all rheumatic troubles is uric acid in the blood. What do you do, first, when the case? Go for the cause. Get your kidneys in perfect working order, and away goes the rheumatism, because when your kidneys, whose duty it is to filter all poisons and impurities from the blood, remove the uric acid, the cause of the rheumatism will be gone and the rheumatism with it.

"Here are some of the symptoms which are danger signals, and, in a large majority of cases, indicate the onset of that most insidious of all maladies, Bright's disease of the kidneys: Pain in the back and sides, headache, nervousness, frequent thirst, hot and dry skin, shortness of breath, evil forebodings, troubled sleep, puffiness of the eyelids, swelling of the feet and ankles, loss of flesh, dark coated or scanty urine, with deposits of castes, etc., and the presence of renal epithelium, tube casts and albumen in the urine.

These are some, not all, of the symptoms of Bright's disease, inflammation or congestion of the kidneys, nephritis, etc., and these Dr. Hobbs' Sparagus Kidney Pills are guaranteed to cure."

For the benefit of persons living at a distance from this city, who did not call at our store yesterday, Dr. Hobbs authorizes us to say if you will cut out the coupon below and mail it to the Hobbs Remedial Co., Chicago, Ill., with your address, they will send you by mail post paid, a sample box of these pills free of expense.

CHARLES ROGERS,
Odd Fellow's Building,
ASTORIA, OREGON.

CUT THIS COUPON OUT.

Upon receipt of THIS COUPON together with your name and address, we will forward by mail a FREE SAMPLE BOX OF Dr. Hobbs' Sparagus Kidney Pills; also his book on kidney diseases.

Address, HOBBS REMEDIAL CO., Chicago, Illinois.

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Elmore, Sanborn & Co., Agents

Fresh from the mills for 1897 fishing. Every ball guaranteed. Please report any imperfections. BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. Every ball must be marked "MARSHALL & CO., SHREVEBURY MILLS." Manufactured from selected flax specially for COLUMBIA RIVER FISHING. See that every ball bears the MARSHALL label.

6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 14-ply 40's.
12, 12, 14, 15, 15-ply 50's.
7, 8, 9, 10-ply 30's.

A Handsome Complexion is one of the greatest charms a woman can possess. FOSBROOK'S COMPLEXION POWDER gives it.

Wanted—An Idea Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Your ideas, they may bring you wealth. Write JOHN W. EDWARDS & CO., Patent Attorneys, Washington, D. C., for their \$1.50 price offer and list of two hundred inventions wanted.

