

How to be Beautiful.

One of the most fascinating women I ever saw was very homely, but she had such a charming manner that no one remembered that she was plain.

I will give you a very short rule for being pretty—think prettily, act prettily, live prettily. You can all remember that; and the more you think of it, the more you will see how much is comprised in it.

A girl who is cross, selfish, petulant, overbearing and discontented, cannot prevent the expression of those qualities from writing their character indelibly upon her face sooner or later.

Be regular in your habits; have society, but not to dissipation. By late hours, excitement, unhealthy living, lack of occupation and lack of exercise, you lessen the tone of your system, lose the bloom of health, and, so intimately are mind and body connected, impair also the tone of your mind.

Youth should only be, however, the promise of the bud; the full flower of beauty should come with the fullness of life and development, and it will do so where the heart is pure and the life righteous, for the writing comes from within, not from without.—College Journal.

A Sensible Parrot.

Three weeks after the great fire in Chicago, in 1861, I saw a parrot that had saved itself from the general fate of all household treasures there. It had belonged to my old friend, Mrs. Kirkland, and was doubly cherished by her daughter.

There were two objects equally dear—the parrot and the old family Bible; but she was unable to carry more than one of them. After a single moment of choice she seized the Bible, and was hastening away when the parrot cried out, in a loud and solemn voice, "Good Lord, deliver us!"

No human being, I think, could have been deaf to such an appeal; the precious Bible was sacrificed and the parrot saved.

The bird really possessed a superior intelligence. I heard him say "Yes" and "No," in answer to questions, the latter being varied so as to admit alternately of both replies; and the test of his knowledge was perfect. In the home where he found a refuge there were many evening visitors, one of whom, a gentleman, was rather noted for his monopoly of the conversation.

When the parrot first heard him, it listened in silence for some time; then, to the amazement and perhaps, the confusion of all present, it said emphatically, "You talk altogether too much!" The gentleman, at first, somewhat embarrassed, presently resumed his interrupted discourse. Thereupon the parrot laid his head on one side, gave an undescribably contemptuous "M-m-m" and added: "There he goes again!"

If there ever was an oiseau terrible it is the parrot: his instinct for discovering ways and means of annoyance is something diabolical.—Rural Home.



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