

**GOOD FRIEND TO ALL, IS PATIENCE**

**Writer Asks Why Impetuous Youth "Must" Be Served.**

It would be useful if more persons understood earlier in life what a very good virtue and very good friend patience is. Without it men could have added hardly anything of importance to their stock of knowledge.

Darwin had his chief ideas on evolution when he was thirty, but waited 20 years—spent in the most laborious investigation—before he wrote anything about it. Other men had much the same ideas, but it was Darwin's 20 years of tireless digging for facts that put his ideas over. Copernicus at forty was certain the earth went round the sun, instead of the sun going round the earth, as astronomy had it up to his time, but he was sixty-seven when he published the treatise that proved it.

To read even a nontechnical sketch of Pasteur's experiments makes one's head ache. One might fill pages with such examples. Innumerable flints must have been broken, and knuckles skinned, before men found out how to shape a symmetrical arrowhead. Patience is a great virtue and a good friend.

Most of the world's popular literature is romantic, and the romancers have usually been in an unholly conspiracy to praise youth's vice of im-

patience and to disparage age's virtue of patience. We must put a stop to that. The romancers suggest that patience may be very well in a cow, but is stultifying in a young person—especially when in love. Medieval Aucassin fixed the type of the popular lover. He won't work, he won't fight, he won't talk, he won't eat; he won't do anything but bellow for Nicolette; he must have her right now; the mere suggestion of patience gives him fits.

Probably he will always be the most fetching figure in a novel or poem, or on the stage. When he is safely isolated in print, or across the footlights, everybody sighs for him. But who wants to live with him? In the real world what is he but a bad-tempered brat in a candy shop, bellowing to have his fill right now?

"Youth must be served" is quoted as though it were very laudable of youth to insist on being served regardless of the feelings of everybody else in the shop. Why is selfishness more admirable at twenty than at eighty? Especially at present, it seems, a lot of young persons take the poetry seriously and live up to the theory that they must have whatever they want—if they can possibly get it.

Age is at such a discount that the aged must try to pass themselves off as counterfeit bills of youth. Grandpa cries "On with the dance!" in brave falsetto. Grandma has her skirts and her face lifted, and drowns the twinges of rheumatism in another cocktail. They call that nervous commotion being alive. But a nap is far more alive

in that respect. The same and perfection of that sort of being alive is found in a dock wallop's free-for-all fight. However, the moldy youths of the night clubs and the cartoons are a minority.—Will Payne in the Saturday Evening Post.

**History Repeats Itself**

A curious document has come to light in Germany. It's a manuscript dating from the Fifteenth century, written by a citizen of Augsburg. This individual wrote a daily observation on the fashion of the day. He started when he was eighteen, and one day heard some ancients deplore the tendency of "modern" dress, especially among women. The first ten years the changing fashions amused him considerably. After his thirtieth year he becomes more conservative. Forty sees him ranged with the Lutheran clergy of Augsburg in a condemnation of low necks for frauleins. At sixty he is a fulminating, roaring denouncer threatening dire destruction of the Nineveh type for his native Augsburg, if the women do not come back from the "frivolity and sinfulness" of the fashion of the year 1560.—Pierre Van Passen, in the Atlanta Constitution.

**Excavators Rewarded**

New light on the life of ancient Carthage is thrown by the discovery of the foundations of a sanctuary dedicated to Astarte, or Tanit, Phoenician goddess of fecundity and love, in whose honor the Carthaginians used to immolate children. This find is the more significant to archeologists and historians in view of the unearthing in its vicinity several years ago of a magnificent winged statue representing the goddess Tanit. It is now in the Peres Blanc museum in Carthage. Excavators among the Carthaginian ruins usually have to content themselves with epigraphical discoveries, such as epitaphs, dedications to gods and other inscriptions.—Chicago News.

**Kongo to Have Aviation**

Commercial aviation has just invaded the Belgian Congo and is giving transportation speedier than ever dreamed of by residents there. A company which has secured the exclusive franchise for operation of civil aviation lines has established regular aerial service between Boma and Elisabethville, covering the 1,289 miles in two days instead of in 50 by any other method. Flights are made every eight days to connect with mail steamers from Belgium. Hydroplane boats will provide transportation between the small towns and settlements.

**Proof That Octopus Must Have "Purchase"**

Experiments have been made in a specially devised tank in order to test the truth of many stories told of octopi attacking human beings and dragging them to the sea bottom.

In the tank with the octopus experimented with there was placed a "dummy" of the same specific gravity as a human being, and this was baited with a crab. Attracted by this tempting morsel, the octopus made for the dummy, seized it in its powerful tentacles, and tried to drag it under the water, but without success. It then went to one side of the tank, and, holding onto the edge of the glass with some of its arms, it dragged its prey beneath the surface and crushed the crab shell with its powerful jaws.

It is believed that these experiments afford proof that the octopus can drag its victims far below the surface of the water only near rocks to which it can attach its "suckers."

There is one spot in the Bay of Naples where these creatures attain a large size, and now and then a fisherman is reported missing.

**"Treasure Island" Inn Named for Real Person**

Every reader of "Treasure Island" knows of Admiral Benbow Inn, but few probably are aware of the admiral whose character inspired Stevenson to give it the name. John Benbow, a fiery young daredevil, entered the British merchant service very early in life, and finding that the reefs were infested with pirates proceeded to make it unpleasant for the swaggering cutthroats with a violence equal to their own methods. He is said to have pickled the heads of a crew of Saltee pirates he had captured and then to have taken them to Cadiz.

Walking up to the tables where sat magistrates who had offered rewards for the capture of any who flew the skull and crossbones, Benbow hoisted up a sack and dumped on the table his grewsome trophies which he blithely referred to as "salt provisions." On his return to England James II was convinced this name was of a stamp they needed in the navy, and gave him command of a ship. William III also employed him, this time in checking Dutch privateers and in bombarding the French ports, duties which he carried out with whole-hearted enthusiasm and success.

**Tchekov's Comfort**

Tchekov, the famous Russian writer, has been called "the most generous of admirers and the most helpful of critics." In the fact that not all men of talent can hope to be genuses he saw nothing to discourage the man of lesser power. His close friend Bunin quotes Tchekov as saying:

"There are big dogs and little dogs, but the little dogs should not be disheartened by the existence of the big dogs. All must bark—and bark with the voice God gave them."



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