No tempest to ruffe the tide, Keep ever a hand on the oar, Nor think that with cares you have done, est you in mid-ocean deplore An error 'twas easy to shun,

To pathway to honor or fame
Is easy or smooth to the feet;
Who seek an illustrious name Must tell through the cold and the heat. In order the prize to secure. There's height after height to be won. Disappointments and grief to endure, Temptations and dangers to shun.

Too many a life has been wrecked.
In seeking for pleasure alone.
As if there were nought to reject,
As if all time were its own.
Oh, into how many a spare.
The heart's best beloved are won.
Though conscious has beloved are Though conscience has bade them beware Of traps they are careless to shun!

The life we are living to-day
In Eden was only portrayed,
When over the flower-strewn way The shadow of evil was laid.
And they who in blissful repose
Their poem of lave had begun.
Were doomed to a conflict with foes
They had not the courage to shun.

Be careful of choosing your friends,
Nor walk in a dangerous way.
Since all of to-morrow depends
On how you have managed to-day
There's many a joy to be found,
There's many a prize to be won.
And wherever rich treasures abound
There's always more danger to shun

ONLY HUMAN NATURE.

BY T. R. THORNTON.

"It's a very singular thing," said Mr. Harry Leigh, "that no woman can listen to a word in praise of another without losing her temper." "Can't she?" asked Mrs. Rosa Leigh,

with the air of one desiring information.
"Well, you should know," her husband meaningly returned.

"Indeed! Why, pray?"
"You would like a case in point?" "By all means. "

This morning, when I spoke of that pretty Mrs. Brown-'She isn't pretty," promptly inter-

rupted Rosa. "There—you see! I have convicted you without an effort."

"By telling a fib, Harry; you know perfectly well that Esther Brown is the homeliest woman in East Hill."

"Oh, well-I'll start again. Because I said that Mrs. Brown was well dressed, amiable, and a model housewife, you became furious—you must admit it."

Nonsense! Dou't exaggerate the case; I simply objected to your making ridiculous assertions. She is none of these things; she dresses vilely, is little better than a shrew, and as for her housekeeping-well, you should peep into the cor-

Mrs. Leigh looked triumphant, evidently thinking she had proved her case. Harry laughed uproariously.

"Shall I begin again, Rosie?" he asked. "How absurd you are!" she pettishly exclaimed, realizing she was caught. "If you must laud other women, don't choose he most ordinary one of my acquaintnce. I'm sure I'm always delighted

hen you praise Fanny Deane, or Mary sanings, or Prue Fox, or—" "Or a dozen more of your cronies, that I know nothing about."

"You know Fanny well enough." "Not half as well as I wish I did. She's really a very charming girl," declared Harry.

"Is she not?" Rosa enthusiastically exclaimed.

"And so pretty!" "Oh, do you think so? Well, opinions differ as to that; but every one admits she is as good as gold."

and as brilliant, judging from her "Oh, yes, dear Fanny says very bright things—sometimes," Mrs. Leigh returned

rather doubtfully. "It seems to me I never saw more beautiful eyes," said Mr. Leigh, after a short pause.

"Why, Harry! Fanny's eyes are her weak point! She admits it herself!" cried

Rosa, flushing. "That's because she is so modest and setiring."

Mrs. Leigh laughed in great apparent merriment.

"Don't be sarcastic, dear," she said in a tone of gentle reproof. "You can't expect a woman who speaks so well in public to be overburdened with modesty. Fanny has lots of other good qualities to make up for that lack. But Harry was laughing more heartily

than before.

"Oh, Rosie, what a little fraud you are!" he exclaimed. "Don't you see I've caught you again? Your friend is everything except what I say she is, it

"Well," said Rosa, pouting, "I don't think it's nice for a man to praise other women in the presence of his own wife, anyway! It seems as if he made uncomfortable comparisons. You wouldn't like it if I were to gush over Jones, Brown and Robinson.

"Nonesone! I shouldn't mind it at all. Men are above trifles of that sort," said

Harry, loftily.

"Really!" Rosa laughed a little at his grand air. "Nevertheless, I'm disposed to try you some day, when you are off

"Do. I'll wager a dollar to a kiss that I'll come out all right."

"Done!" cried Mrs. Leigh. "Harry, dear, I wish you'd take me to the Star Theatre to-night," said Rosa, in

her prettiest manner.

Why, what's the particular attraction there?" asked her husband. "Young Hansum as Claude Melnotte."

"Thank you-that's enough for me," he answered brusquely. "Oh, Harry! He's perfectly splendid in it! I've seen him twice already, and

am just dying to see him again." "For heaven's sake, don't talk like a matinee girl, Rosa! What women see in that fellow passes my comprehension."

"What don't they see, you ought to say! He's handsome." "Handsome! Come, I like that! A follow with red hair and a stoop handsome! You should see him in the street.

"I have, and he's just as charming there as he is on the stage. His hair is golden, and such a lot of it!"

"Humph! Wigs are cheap." "Then he is so talented!"
"Talented! Shades of Fechter, she calls that mouthing idiot talented! Why, I could play Claude Melnotte better my-

"And he paints, too," persisted Rosa,
"and plays on the violin, and sings—"
"Sings! Ha! ha! Call that bellow singing? Really, Rosa, you're losing what little taste you ever had!" Leigh

cavagely exclaimed. "At least you will admit that he dresses well," said Mrs. Leigh, demurely. "They

say he sets the fashion." "They say! How I hate that term! They say everything but their prayers, nowadays.

"That reminds me that he sayshis, "asscrted Rosa. "And he goes to church overy Sunday."

"Religious, too! Well, well! What olse? Go on, pray-I'd like to see how far your imagination will carry you, madam!" cried madam's husband, with a withering glance.

"Oh, that's about all," Rosa calmly answered, "except that he's considered a

Ho! ho! Ha! ha! Well, really! I must tell that at the club! Hansum a wit! Why, everyone knows his valet teaches him his parts!" Mr. Leigh bounced from the table and into his overcoat. "I had no idea you possessed so little sense, Mrs. Leight

"And you won't take me to the theater to-night?" Resa said in an aggrieved tone. "I'm hanged if I will! A woman who wants to see a man like that act had better try a Punch and Judy show!"

Leigh cried, dashing from the room, A silvery laugh followed him, "Harry! Harry, dear!" and Rosa's pretty face peeped from the parlor door. "Well?" he growled, softened in spito

of himself at the sight of it. "Hadn't you better leave me that dollar, dear? Then I can go to the matinee,

you know, Her eyes were brimming with merriment. "What dollar?" he growled. Then he

caught her look and a light broke in upon him. "Done, by Jove!" he exclaimed, as he best an inglorious retreat. That night Mr. and Mrs. Leigh attended the theater.

Colors of the German Plag. Two well dressed women stood among the throng at the ribbon counter in one of the large dry goods stores a few days ago, and having at length obtained the services of a clerk one of them said,-

"I want to buy some narrow ribbons for favors, but I must have the colors of the German flag, and strangely enough neither my friend nor I can recall them. Do you remember what they are?"

"I do not," said the girl, politely, im-pressed apparently by the international character of her customers, "but the other young lady at this counter may

"The other young lady" said she thought the colors were black and yel-"I am sure that isn't right," remarked

an old customer who was sitting on the third stool down the counter. "Possibly the floorwalker would know," suggested the clerk. "Ca-s-h! Ask Mr.

Fitzhugh to come here.' That functionary having arrived the matter was duly referred to him.

"There are three colors," he declared, "black, red and yellow," "Are you sure?" asked the two shop-pers earnestly. "We cannot make a mis-

take. " "I am almost sure that is wrong," interposed a young woman near by, who had overheard the controversy. husband is a German, and I never heard of yellow in the German flag."

Possibly it might be buff," conceded the floorwalker. "I used to teach school in Indiana." remarked a tall woman with a cat-skin

muff, "and I can settle this question. The colors in the German flag are red, white and yellow." This seemed authoritative, but some-

how the various contestants didn't appear satisfied.
"There's Schwartz, the floorwalker in

the cotton department," suggested the stately Fitshugh; "he's a German him-self; he'll know. Cash, go and ask Mr. Schwartz to write the colors of the German flag on this card. " The Indiana school teacher did not

look pleased, but the matter having gone to the court of appeals she rested her case, and the cash girl was back in a minute with the card. On it were written the words, "black, red and white. . "That settles it. Thank you so much,"

said the two feminine shoppers, gratefully, looking apprehensively at the lis-tening throng. "How much is this nar-row ribbon, please?"

"Twenty-two cents a piece of ten yards," replied the girl, expectantly.
"Well, we need only a little. Give me a yard of each color. How much will

"Seven cents," murmured the clerk, staggered for a moment by the magnitude of the order after the trouble in ob-

taining it. The "other young lady" and the Indiana school teacher tittered audibly, but

there was no sign of a smile on the clerk's face as she drawled,-

"Shall I have the package sent up to your house, ma'am?"

Strange Effects of Diving.

An Australian pearl-diver, recounting his experiences, says that one of the strange effects of diving is the invariable bad temper felt while working at the bottom of the sea; and as this usually passes away as soon as the surface is reached, it may be supposed to be due to the pressure of air inside the dress, affecting the lungs, and through them the brain. A diver often becomes so angry at some immaginary wrong-doing on the part of those in the boat above that he gives the signal to be pulled up, "with the inten-tion of knocking the heads off the entire crew"-only to forget what he came up for when the surface is reached.

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