

Conquer Yourself.

BY HELEN WHITNEY CLARK.

It's no use to grumble and sigh.
It's no use to worry and fret.
It's no use to grieve or to cry.
Or fling yourself down in a pout.
You'll never be wiser or great.
If you bluster like bees when they swarm;
'Tis folly your woes to berate.
And pitch like a ship in a storm.
Don't get in a tantrum and shout.
When obstacles rise in your way.
And don't let me beg of you—pout.
By way of displaying your wrath;
Don't cut out your brains just to spite
Some fancied injustice of Fate.
For time will set every thing right.
If you only have patience to wait.
The blustering wind can't chill
The lake, though he ruffles its face.
But the frost, with his presence so still,
Locks it fast in a sheet embrowned.
So you may win fame beyond price.
And conquer the world with its pelt.
If you only will conquer yourself.
And first learn to conquer yourself.
Golden Days.

NUMBERS ODD AND EVEN.

And the Superstitious Beliefs Concerning Them.

That there is luck in odd numbers is a popular saying, characterized by a felicitous ambiguity which renders it equally correct in the case of either good or bad luck. The expression, however, is generally taken to mean that good luck may be attributed to odd numbers; and whether or not they may be justified in assuming that even ones must consequently be unlucky, many country women will only put their hens to set on an odd number of eggs, in the belief that otherwise no chickens would be hatched.

Numbers both odd and even have always been credited with mystic powers capable of influencing the destinies of man. It is possible that the belief may have been due in the first instance to a sense of reverence and awe with which the immutable laws of mathematics were probably regarded by the ignorant; the fact, too, that the third, fifth or sixth note in an octave harmonizes with the first may in some measure account for the superstitious importance with which the numbers three, five and six have been regarded; and the regularity and frequency with which certain numbers occur in Nature's handiwork may also have given rise to a belief in some mystic powers inherent in the numbers themselves. Thus, two is constantly before us in bilateral symmetry and the number of petals which many flowers possess or the number of fingers and toes on each of our hands and feet—the thumb, of course, being reckoned as one of the fingers; and as an instance in which six occurs we may mention the hexagonal cells of a honeycomb.

It is unnecessary to give examples of the mystical use of numbers in the Scriptures, for no one who has read the Bible can have failed to notice the frequency with which certain numbers are used, evidently intentionally and with a symbolical significance.

In many of the legends which may be found amongst the North American Indians, two witches or medicine women play a prominent part. This may be merely a curious coincidence; but more probably it is the result of some forgotten superstition connected with numbers; for the Old World, too, has its witch legends; and so far as monarchs have been concerned, it certainly seems to have been an unlucky number, many of those who were second of a name having had troubled reigns or met with untimely fates.

There is much superstitious regard for the number three in the popular mind, and the third repetition of anything is generally looked upon as a crisis. Thus, an article may twice be lost and recovered; but the third time that it is lost, it is gone for good. Twice a man may pass through some great danger in safety; but the third time he loses his life. If, however, the mystic three can be successfully passed, all is well. Three was called by Pythagoras the perfect number, and we frequently find its use symbolical of deity; thus, we might mention the trident of Neptune, the three-headed lightning of Jove, and the three-headed dog of Pluto. The idea of trinity is not confined to Christianity, but occurs in many religions. In mythology also, we find three Fates, three Furies and three Graces; and coming nearer to our own times, Shakespeare introduces his three witches. In public house signs three seems to play an important part, for we frequently meet with 'Three Cups,' 'Three Jolly Sailors,' 'Three Bells,' 'Three Tuns,' 'Three Feathers'—in fact, that number of almost any thing of which a fertile imagination can conceive a trio. In nursery rhymes and tales this number is not unknown; and if we look back to the day of our childhood, most of us will call to mind the three wise men of Gotham who took a sea voyage in a boat, not to mention the three blind mice that had their tails cut off by the farmer's wife. Perhaps there is some occult power in the number which governs the division of novels into three volumes and induces doctors to order their medicine to be taken three times. It is said that some tribes of savages can not count beyond three; but although they may have no words to express higher numbers, perhaps we should be scarcely justified in assuming that they are incapable of appreciating the value of the latter.

Five is a mystic number which was supposed to possess great influence over demons and evil spirits. Probably primitive man, not unlike some of his descendants at the present day—reckoned up his little accounts on his fingers, ultimately using his hand as a symbol of five, and consequently attaching extra importance to that number. Seven was considered a holy number, and throughout the Scriptures it is frequently used as such. The seventh son of a seventh son was formerly looked upon as a natural doctor who possessed miraculous powers of healing the sick, and could, in fact, frequently effect a cure by merely touching the sufferer. Even at the present day this piece of superstition has not died out, and occasionally one may still meet with these so-called natural doctors, who fully believe in the marvellous powers ascribed to them. Among the Gaboon tribes there is a superstition that on the seventh day after the birth of a child, the woman who is nursing the mother is in danger of being converted into an

Animal by some evil spirit, if the necessary steps are not taken to prevent her metamorphosis. According to a popular superstition, seven years of bad luck may be expected by the unfortunate person who chanced to break a mirror. There is a general belief with most people that they undergo some change every seven years; and more life is popularly divided into seven ages, and formerly it was supposed that seven and nine were capable of exerting much subtle influence over men, the product of these two numbers being particularly powerful in this respect. Thus, sixty-three years was called the grand climacteric, and that age was considered a very important crisis in a man's life. Women, on the other hand, were supposed to be more susceptible to the influence of six. Probably it was this belief in the supposed influence of nine and six on men's lives which originally gave rise to the custom of granting leases for multiples of seven or nine years. Long leases are granted for ninety, two hundred and ninety-nine years, instead of a hundred or thousand years, and there is, we believe, a piece of superstition that otherwise the hundredth or thousandth year would be under the influence of the Evil One.

Nine, a trinity of trinites, is the perfect plural, and is credited with mystic properties. As might be supposed, therefore, many superstitions are connected with it. The first unmarried man passing beneath the lintel post of a door over which has been hung a piece containing nine peas, will marry a maid who placed it there; and a piece of worsted with nine knots tied in it is considered a charm for a sprained ankle. Nine is not in every case a lucky number, however, for evil-doers regard the nine tails of the "cat" with very little favor; to see nine magpies is considered an ill omen; and the nine of diamonds has been called—although no one seems to know why—the "Curse of Scotland."

Twelve is of constant recurrence. Thus, there were twelve tribes of Israel and twelve apostles; a year is divided into twelve months. It is a well known piece of superstition that if thirteen people sit down to table together one of them will die within a year; and probably, as has been suggested, the origin of this belief may be traced to the Paschal Supper. Even at the present day, many people, who certainly ought to possess more sense, are reluctant to take part in a dinner or supper party containing the unlucky number of guests. Some, indeed, will even refuse to sit at the same table with twelve others; and formerly in France there were men who gained a livelihood by attending dinner parties and making up the number of guests to fourteen in cases of emergency, where it was discovered at the last moment that only thirteen were present.

About The Umbrella.

In Queen Anne's time the umbrella is mentioned both by Swift and Gray as being employed by women; but up to the middle of the eighteenth century it appears never to have been used by men, though Wolf, the future conqueror of Quebec, wrote from Paris in 1755, describing it as in general use there, and wondering that so convenient a practice had not penetrated to England. Drexel has described the umbrella as one of the contrivances of Robinson Crusoe, and umbrellas were in consequence at one time called "Robinsons." They were looked on as a sign of extreme effeminacy, and they multiplied very slowly. Dr. Jamison, in 1782, is said to have been the first person who used one in Glasgow; and Sontly's mother, who was born in 1752, was accustomed to say that she remembered the time when any one would have been hooded who carried one in the streets of Bristol.

A single coarse cotton umbrella was often kept in a coffee-house to be lent out to customers, or in a private house to be taken out with the carriage and held over the heads of ladies as they got in and out; but for many years those who used umbrellas in the streets were exposed to the insults of the mob, and to the persistent and very natural animosity of the hackney-coachmen, who bespattered them with mud and lashed them furiously with their whips. But the manifest convenience of the fashion secured its ultimate triumph, and before the close of the century umbrellas passed into general use.

Hanway, the famous traveler and philanthropist, who returned to England in 1750, is said to have been the first Englishman who carried an umbrella; and a Scotch footman named John McDonald, who had traveled with his master in France and Spain, mentions in his curious autobiography that he brought one to London in 1778, and persisted in carrying it in wet weather, though a jeering crowd followed him, crying: "Frenchman, why don't you get a coach?" In about three months the annoyance almost ceased, and gradually a few foreigners, and then some Englishmen, followed his example.

African Ovens.

We have all read about the great hills—some of them ten and twelve feet high—that are made by the tribes of white ants which infest many tropical countries, but only the great explorer, Dr. Livingston, has told us of a use that these hills are sometimes put to when they have been deserted by their builders. The natives of Africa rejoice when they find a deserted ant-hill because it is an oven all ready for their use. In some of its many galleries they stop all openings save one. Then they put in a fine bed of live coals, and upon this bed they lay large pieces of meat wrapped in large green leaves. Then they carefully close the last opening, with wet clay and after waiting for three, or four, or more hours, according to the size of the pieces of meat they take out the clay—which is baked hard by this time—and remove the meat which has been made very tender and juicy by this process. As there is no draft to this oven the coals cannot burn up and spoil the meat, but retain their heat for a very long time. Elephant feet are considered a very great delicacy when cooked this way, but they are a rare treat.

ABOUT STUFFY HOUSES.

What Housekeepers Should Do to Have Sweet, Pleasant Homes.

Many houses are always in order, and one fails to detect dust or dirt; yet they lack the freshness and sweetness which should be a part of every home. In such houses the carpet-sweeper or the small brush-broom and the dust-pan are used to remove all the perceptible dirt from the floor. The sunlight is shut out, lest carpets and furniture-coverings be faded; the rooms do not get a thorough airing every day, and this is why a visitor feels oppressed on entering. A woollen carpet will absorb not only the dust, but also all the gases and unpleasant odors which come in contact with it. The carpets or rugs in a sitting-room should be swept or shaken once a week at least, and these rooms should be thoroughly aired every morning.

Straw matting, or hard-wood, or painted floors are sweeter and more conducive to health than woollen carpets. It is, therefore, a pity that anything but matting is ever used for covering a bed-room floor. Small rugs that any body can easily shake may be placed beside the bed and wash-stand, and, indeed, wherever one would like a mat to give an air of warmth and comfort to the room. Many persons object to matting, because they say, it does not wear well. The best quality will, however, outwear an ingrain carpet. Cheap mattings are expensive at any price.

There should be nothing in a bedroom that is not washable, and the furniture should be so simple that it can be cared for without too much time and labor. The beds should be thoroughly aired every morning, the sheets, blankets, pillows and mattresses so disposed that there shall be a current of air about them; and if possible they should be exposed to the sunshine. All closets should be thoroughly aired daily. The kitchen and cellar must be as carefully watched as any other part of the house. How often the bad odors and sickness could be traced to the kitchen or cellar. A few green vegetables or fruit left there may cause an unpleasant odor that will penetrate every part of the house and often bring on serious illness. In the kitchen there must be daily inspection of closets and a thorough airing several times in the day. The windows should be dropped a few inches from the top all the time, in this way keeping the air pure, and, as a matter of fact, keeping the whole house sweeter. It is a misfortune to have an inclosed sink, because the closet is, as a rule, a receptacle for damp dish, sink and floor cloths, all of which should be exposed to air and light, instead of being thrown into a dark corner until wanted again.

Another important thing to keep in mind is the plumbing. The more conveniences a housekeeper has in the way of set-bowls, bath-rooms, etc., the greater her cares; for these modern conveniences may be a source of the greatest danger. It is singular that but few understand the necessity for a thorough flushing of the pipes once or twice a day. Some folks think any use of water beyond what is actually necessary is a waste. A constant leakage is a waste, but there should be a perfect rush of water through all the pipes at least once a day. Once a week all the pipes should have poured through them boiling hot soda water, half a pint of washing soda dissolved in two gallons of boiling water. When bought by the quarter-barrel soda is very cheap. Three or four barrels of charcoal set in different parts of the cellar will be of great help in keeping the house sweet.

In damp weather in summer a fire should be lighted in some room in the main part of the house, and the doors in all the rooms be opened, in order that all the house may be kept dry. If we would have sweet homes we must be prodigal in our use of water, fresh air and sunlight.—Maria Parlos, in Good Housekeeping.

A Few "Don'ts."

Dear boys and girls, may I say a few "don'ts" to you, if I'll be very smiling and pleasant about it? They are not agreeable, I know, but like some other bitter medicine, they may do good. So come, all you who are "willing-hearted," and want to get up into the very best of men and women, and listen to me just for a few minutes.

Don't chew gum! It hurts you. You were not made to chew a cud like cows, and any departure from the plan on which your bodies were made will bring evil upon you, in some way. It may not make you feel bad in any way, for a while, but you are opening wide the door for that terror, "King Dyspepsia."

Then you'll lose your rosy cheeks and bright eyes; in fact, you will lose all enjoyment of living. Will the present pleasure of chewing pay for the future misery?

And, oh! boys, it will make you an easy prey to the temptation to chew tobacco—it is a stepping-stone to tobacco—and that form of temptation is about as hard enough to resist now. Don't make it any harder.

Don't talk in a loud voice on the streets, or any public place. Don't do anything to attract attention to yourselves in public. I assure you that older people have eyes and opinions; and they watch you more closely than you think; don't think they don't see because they make no sign. They judge you by your actions, and the quiet, modest boy, or girl, is the one who is most admired.

Don't be selfish in public. Don't be so busy having a good time yourselves that you prevent others around you from enjoying any thing; it is unkind, and you don't want to be unkind, I know. Don't go to a public place to have a frolic. If you do not want to give attention to what is going on there, stay away, and have your frolic at home.

Miss Eva L. GREGG, county superintendent of schools in Cherokee County, Ia., recently had a petition for revocation of certificate tried before her, which consumed nearly two weeks. The plaintiff and defendant were men. The Woman's Standard, says: "The young lady maintained perfect order in her court, and conducted herself in the capacity of judge with much dignity, self-composure and unbiased judgment that she won the highest commendation."

THE GRACEFUL MINUET.

European Society Returning to the Once Popular Dance.

The minuet which Strauss is about to introduce to the partial exclusion of his own waltz was the first ball dance which had a really world-wide popularity. It is a slow dignified dance, an appropriate product of the time and place of its birth. It is very old. When Don Juan d'Autria went incognito from Brussels to Paris nothing he saw during his famous trip excited his admiration half so much as the grace with which the beautiful Margaret of Burgundy danced the minuet. Other beaux and titled dandies of the same period also put in writing flattering allusions to the beauties of this dance. Nevertheless, it is exceedingly doubtful that the minuet of those times was the original model of the minuet of to-day.

The minuet, which very recently has appeared in the Parisian saloons, was invented by the French ballet master, Gardel, or rather was evolved by him from a much older dance for the celebration of the marriage of King Louis XVI "Minuet of the Queen" is the title which the gallant Gardel gave to his new dance in honor of Marie Antoinette. The figures of a dance of the time of Louis XIV, were utilized by Gardel as the basis of his new minuet. The old dance, with which every court-ballet of Louis XIV. was opened, consisted mostly therein that the gentleman and the lady faced each other, moved a few steps forward and backward in time with dignified and sonorous music, bowed deeply, and returned to their places. This dance was called the "Branle." It was succeeded by the gavotte, in which "the gentlemen kissed the bouquet of flowers, and with a deep bow handed it to his partner." From this gavotte Gardel derived the minuet. The famous dancing-master, Piccini, introduced an important innovation by changing the S figure into the Z figure, which is still danced. The minuet is the only dance which preserves the courtly dignity of the old regime, and therefore has ever been regarded as the most aristocratic of dances. The most popular of minuet music is from the first finale of Mozart's Don Juan. The music is the model of all other music to which the minuet has been danced of late years.—Selected.

A Girl Machinist.

Miss Nellie Patterson, one of the prettiest girls in the village of Mount Carmel, says a Connecticut paper, has just completed a four years' apprenticeship to the machinist's trade. To-day she is working at her lathe and vice in the factory of the Mount Carmel Belt Company, and there isn't a mechanic in the whole shop who can do a better job or in less time than the fair young workwoman. Four years ago, when Miss Nellie began to think of the means whereby she must earn her living, she looked over the whole field of woman's work. Among the trades or occupations which the pushing women of this country have made their own, there was none she especially liked. She was a bright girl, with a great deal of Yankee cleverness, and considerable ingenuity and inventiveness. The remark was made to a friend that she was so fond of inventions she ought to become a machinist. The seed thus sown took root, and she applied for a place as an apprentice. For the past four years she has worked faithfully, and a few days ago her time expired, and she is now a full-fledged machinist. She is able to block up a piece of work on the planer, or turn up an arbor on the lathe. She uses the drill or handles the file as well as any man in the shop. Her specialty, however, is tool-making. As to this she proposes to devote herself. She can also draw plans, figure out dimensions, and from the working drawings she can make anything. She is not afraid of the grease and grime of the shop, and her beauty is not in the least marred by a long swipe of dirt across her dimpled cheek, or a spot of oil on her nose. Her hands are not as white as those of some of her sisters, but they are by no means large, though they are very strong. She is a great favorite with her fellow-workmen, and is the pride of the little country village.

How to Amuse the Children.

The 4-year-old may be allowed to wipe dishes, help set the table, and even brush the crumbs from the carpet. If the child is praised a little and made to feel some interest, she will take pride in putting her toys carefully away and restoring the room to its former neatness. A word of suggestion here and there will be gladly received, whereas if the mother waits until the slovenly habits are fixed, the child will be much harder to manage, and perhaps never be neat.

In regard to toys, the mother will soon find that the most lasting in the child's favor are the ones that can change the form of, or invent new ideas about. I believe that is one reason the doll is never forsaken. A few cheap articles will be just as valuable to the little one as something costing a small fortune.

For example, a bundle of lamp lights will afford interest, as the child can first lay them down in rude outlines of houses, trees or animals; then weave them into fences, gates, the letters of the alphabet, etc. A paint box and some advertising pictures, a pencil and paper, a pair of blunt scissors and a newspaper will help to fill in the hours and give mother a chance to breathe.

Another excellent plaything is a soft ball, which one child can throw up and catch, while the others count, thus learning to catch and count at the same time. If mamma will bring out her box of buttons, little Mischief will be pleased to string them for her, and she will also pull out beading threads with the greatest despatch and skill. In fact, a child that is trusted and feels some responsibility will be much happier, and there will always be a confidence in the mother and a desire for her advice.—Henrietta C. O'Kane.

A LITTLE boy in Saratoga, not long since, came running in from out doors, crying because he had been stung by a bee. "Mamma," he sobbed out, "I'd just as lieves the bees'd walk on me, but I don't like to have 'em sit down."

Our Fashion Letter.

It is to be greatly regretted that just now, when the feeling against demitres on the promenades is so strong, our leading modistes will insist on adding an inch or two in length to all new street costumes. But no matter how strongly the feeling of innate cleanliness and refinement may protest against trailing costly fabrics in the dust, who will dare to raise a dissenting voice so long as this is one of Fashion's decrees?

In comparing the styles of to-day with those of a few years ago, one is greatly astonished at the difference, especially in the colors; yet if he looks observantly through those years he will see how, gradually, from season to season, bright colors have gained in favor till now they are used with a most lavish hand, calling forth not exclamations of astonishment, but only words of admiration for their wonderful beauty. Colors which were once deemed suitable only for receptions and ball rooms, are now worn daily on the promenades. And not only is this true of colors but also, to a large extent, in the make of the garments.

While this promiscuous use of colors and styles is true of the masses, the real artists of fashion will never be guilty of such a breach of good taste. To them colors and styles suitable for carriage dresses, will only be used for carriage dresses, reception dresses for receptions, street costumes for the promenades, etc.

Tailor costumes, so suitable for morning street wear, the faces, etc., are now shown in English *bure* of light shades, white cream or grey foundations, with small or large squares in delicate colors. The skirt is made quite plain, the bodice, with a small Amazon basque, having beneath a vest, matching the costume in color, and a rolling collar faced with silk.

Jackets are in greater favor than ever, and have many new novelties which add greatly to their beauty. Some are shown of beige delicately embroidered in the back and on the fronts with brown cord and a fine, gold soutache. The edge is trimmed with a fringe of gilded *grelots* mixed with jet-pearls.

The open fronts have revers entirely covered with embroidery. Two embroidered *barrettes* are crossed like Breton ornaments, on the chest, just below the revers—the one on the right joined to that of the left by hooks placed beneath. This is a new idea and extremely ornamental.

Jackets and costumes frequently have sleeves of different material but velvet sleeves, as we have mentioned in a former letter, have had their day. For the summer season sleeves of Madras tulle, fancy silk, embroidery and lace are used.

A novelty is the use of black lace materials for trimming light-colored wool fabrics. It has always been thought that these airy tissues could only be used to trim lighter dresses, especially silks, but we shall soon see that blouses, sleeves, waists and skirts of light colored goods will be profusely ornamented with trimmings of tulle.

"Dance Fashion" also says that velvets, so long considered suitable only for winter wear, will be largely used as summer fabrics but they will be of lighter weight and in more delicate shades.

In summer dresses, is shown a black tulle embroidered with large oval dots, the plain skirt trimmed with three rows of satin ribbon of graduated width and the sleeves of plain tulle. Another dress was of damask silk draped with plain tulle, the sleeves of damask silk without drapery. With this was worn a pretty jacket of black *courseon* ornamented with fine black and gold embroidery, and a border of ostrich feathers.

These thin, narrow borders of feathers, which are used so much as trimming for costumes of *peau de soie*, are less than nothing, mere misty fringe scarcely visible, yet full of grace and beauty.

A beautiful evening dress, made by one of our leading houses in Paris, was of black embroidered net; the skirt and bodice were gathered and the sash and wrist bands were embroidered in gold. A vest in old pink velvet, richly embroidered in gold, gave an added Spanish grace to the dress.

Spring mantles are gradually being trimmed into summer wraps and in the process grow beautifully less. Indeed, so small have they become that they seem more like corset trimmings than wraps. Fichus and shawl mantles with fancy tulle are shown, also silk fichus with pearl leaf garniture.

The Marie Antoinette fichu of Chantilly lace is quite new, and bids fair to be the favorite among summer wraps. It is a collar pointed in the back, having long ends in front which cross at the waistline and are held by a ribbon girder; it is trimmed with long netted fringe and a silk faced collar.

Sapphire blue, a color which has been banished for a long time, is being used this season as a trimming. It is seen on costumes of Scotch *bure* or cashmere in the shape of velvet bands which are repeated on the corsage and sleeves.

Many hats are trimmed with large knots of sapphire velvet and yellow flowers. These colors, yellow and blue, have never been used in combination, on hats, so freely as in the present season.

Round hats are not very large but sufficiently so to shade well the face without concealing it. The large Watou hats are exceptions, but these are used only for carriage wear. At present, the greatest favorites in hats are those of black tulle ornamented with beautiful pansies in velvet and crape, of soft tones like those of anemones, and knots of velvet ribbon of different colors according to the taste of the wearer. The pansy is indeed the flower of the day.

There is a seeming tendency to return to a child that is trusted and feels some responsibility will be much happier, and there will always be a confidence in the mother and a desire for her advice.—Henrietta C. O'Kane.

HORSE NOTES.

—Isaac Murphy has signed a contract to ride this season for J. B. Haggin.

—The Abundance colt, which won the Expectation Stakes on Thursday, May 14th, is a half-brother to Gregory.

—Rupertia and the rest of "Brown Dick's" horses have been struck out of their eastern engagements at the spring meetings.

—Henry S. Eckert, of Topton, Pa., has purchased from Robert Steel the U. C. Comedy by Epaulet, dam Amy Wentworth.

—Millard Sanders has two additions to his string in Colonel Kipp's mare, Daisy Queen, and T. Greenwood's mare, Maud.

—The Austrian offer to Jockey Garrison was probably one of those Florence-Southern jokes. In short, a chimeric, pure and simple.

—Hugh Brothers have purchased from their breeder, the Ex-Mrs. George Lorillard, the three full brothers to Loantaka, Triton and Seadrift for \$5,000.

—J. H. Shults' string on the circuit will probably consist of Gold Leaf, Arrow (2.14), Issaquema (2.33), Thistle, Sally Graham and Daisy Queen.

—Astoria, the sister of Dexter and Dictator, dropped on Friday night, May 9th, a strongly-formed chestnut colt by Lord Russell, brother to Maud S.

—F. W. Reynolds, for many years located at Charter Oak Park, Hartford, Conn., has accepted the position of trainer and driver at Highland Stock Farm.

—Entries for the Kentucky Trotting Horse Breeders' Association, meeting to be October 13 to 50 will close on June 2.

—The crowds at the Pimlico race-track Baltimore, would compare favorably in appearance with any ever seen on a race-course. Many ladies in elegant attire were present each day, and all seemed to enjoy the honest trotting and pacing.

—The entries to the nomination purse and stakes of the Central Kentucky Fair Association number 72, of which 31 are for the C. F. Clay stakes for yearlings; 23 for the 2-year-old purse; 11 for the 3-year-old purse, and 7 for the 4-year-old purse.

—There were five starters in the 3-minute class at Baltimore on Tuesday, May 13th, Nellie E. and Billy Nugent were distanced in the second heat. James B. Green held the lines over Pretty Belle, the winner, and gave her a record of 2.28½. The only time the mare left her feet was a double break in the third heat.

—The meeting at Pimlico, Baltimore, opened well. Mr. George A. Singery won the 3-minute class with Pretty Belle, and took a record of 2.28½. Good for Mr. Singery. His mare is bound to fight races with all the courage of a Prince of Wales. President Frank Brown and Secretary Robert Hough make a strong working team.

—The Dwyer Brothers have changed their methods of training and racing, as evinced by the way they were dealing with Kingston, Sir Dixon and Long street. They have found, just as English racing men have, that it pays better to win one or two big races than many small ones. None of their horses run now unless they are right; the minute one shows staleness they stop him. They see the mistake made with Luke Blackburn, Hindoo, Dewdrop and Hanover.

—Orion Hickok and Charles Marvin arrived at Terre Haute with their California string of horses on Monday, May 12. At the head of Hickok's string is the pacer Adonis, 2.14, son of Guy Wilkes, 2.15; out of the famous old pacer mare Lucy, 2.14. He is a pacer and quiet fast. Alfred S., 2.18, Prince Warwick and Monterey are also said to be good ones. Marvin's string consists of Sunol, 2.10½; Palo Alto, 2.12½; Gertrude Russel, 2.23½; Arol, 2.24; Electric Bell, and two or three others of lesser note.

—Theodore Winter's stable, including the celebrated El Rio Rey, Rey del Rey, Barrett, Rascal, Joe Courtney, in all sixteen head of horses, will soon be shipped from the West to Monmouth Park, and be prepared specially for their engagements at that place. From this it would seem that the contemplated tour of the Western Circuit had been abandoned. The sudden change of programme will be generally taken to mean that the horses are not quite ready. Certainly, the move means that El Rio Rey will not race for a long time at least, as otherwise he would not come East when he has such valuable engagements as the American Derby at Chicago.

—Castaway II, the Beverwyck Stable colt, which won the Brooklyn handicap on Thursday, May 15th, is by Outcast, dam Lucy Lisle by Virgil. He was foaled on April 22, 1886, the property of Rufus Lyle, on his place one mile from Lexington, Ky. He first ran for the Dixiana stakes at the Lexington spring meeting on May 7, 1888, but was unplaced, and he ran in all twenty-seven times that year, under the colors of the Jacobson Stable. At 3 years old, in 1889, Castaway II ran in thirty-eight other races, of which he won seven. He ran on the opening day at Guttenburg, but was unplaced for the Okolona handicap. He was then laid up for the winter. Previous to Castaway II's race on Thursday, May 15th, he had run in all eight races this year, of which he won at a mile and a sixteenth at Linden on April 24, carrying 105 pounds, in 1.48; a handicap purse at Elizabeth on May 1 at a mile and a sixteenth, with 110 pounds, in 1.50, when he beat Don Taragon, Jack Rose and Bourbon, and his last previous win was at Linden last Monday (May 12), when again at a mile and a sixteenth, with 105 pounds he won in 1.49, beating Stockton, Ori-Flamma, Glenmound, Zephyrus, Ten Booker and George Gyster. Castaway II is well engaged, he being in a number of handicaps and stakes at Morris Park and Monmouth, including the Toboggan Slide Handicap, for which he is handicapped at 112 pounds, but he will incur a penalty of ten pounds for Thursday, May 15th victory.

There is but one happiness—duty.