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PRINCIPLES, not MEN.

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THE CONTRARY MAN.

How Nicely he was Taken in by Patty.

It was a matter of principle with Mr. Coldstream to be always on the contrary side. In this respect he differed from the amiable old woman immortalized by Dickens; for, whereas "everybody went contrary" with her, he went contrary with everything. Had he been born in England, and had fitness been all that was necessary, he would doubtless have figured largely before Parliament as one of the "opposition;" but being born in America, he was obliged to confine the exercise of his peculiar talent to a more limited sphere.

To find out what his opinion was upon any subject, you had only to express your own, for he was sure to be on the opposite side. He was politically a Republican—that is, he always voted that ticket; but if we may credit his repeated declarations, he was opposed to every principle they advocated. He quarrelled persistently with all they did, and all they failed to do.

He had been a member of one of the Orthodox churches for a number of years; but why he ever joined it was a puzzle to most of the brethren. For, according to his own language he subscribed to none of the articles of faith; very strenuously opposing them whenever they were mentioned with the slightest approval.

He carried his amiable spirit in all the relations of life. He married his wife simply because his friends opposed the match, and displayed a wonderful ingenuity in finding out her opinions and preferences, in order that he might contradict and thwart them, until after the first few months, she moved about the house to those well-ordering she devoted all her energies, with a timid, deprecating air as though she really begged pardon for being there at all.

She rarely ventured to express an opinion of her own; but when she did she was cut short by the original observation, "What do women know about such matters?" or, "my wardrobe is in a shocking condition, not a decent collar, nor over a dozen shirts that I can wear. Yet a very remarkable circumstance, however, when you will occupy yourself with matters entirely beyond your province and comprehension."

In the early part of her married life she had inadvertently expressed the belief that in purchasing articles belonging exclusively to her own attire, she could lay out the money to better advantage than he. This was enough. Ever afterward, his serious inconvenience and loss of time, he insisted upon purchasing everything for her, from a shawl to a skein of cotton. He was, as he frequently asserted, a "martyr to her incompetence," spending whole days in penetrating into the mystery of dry goods and millinery, and bringing home such bargains in the shape of dingy silks and ribbons, and prints and delaines, of such a pattern that his wife trembled whenever she saw him coming home with a bundle under his arm, for he would rarely trust commodities to the care of another.

Mrs. Coldstream bore this very patiently until one day he sent home a bonnet of light blue and profusely ornamented with flowers of the same delicate hue—she was a dark brunette, and, taking it from the bandbox, she held it at arm's length and surveyed it with an air of consternation.

"How could you select such a color as this, my dear?" she said to her husband who stood by regarding it with evident delight.

Nothing more was needed. From that time henceforth blue was the color with Mr. Coldstream. In all its shades, from the darkest indigo to the lightest azure, it was the principal color for his wife's wardrobe; meeting her every remonstrance with the assertion,

"A beautiful color, Mrs. C., and so becoming to your complexion."

Mrs. Coldstream had two children, a son and a daughter, who were brought up on the agreeable principle of giving them everything they didn't want, and continually crossing their inclinations. The natural result of this was that the son left home at the first opportunity, and the daughter determined to do so as soon as she could obtain that indispensable article to enable her to do so with propriety, a husband. As she was pretty and sensible, and had more than a usual share of feminine tact, her prospects in that respect were very encouraging.

"My dear Patty," said her mother to her one day, "it won't do for you to encourage Charley Reid coming here any more; your father has strong prejudices against him."

Now Patty owed her euphonious name to the fact that it was among the few

that Mrs. Coldstream disliked; a dislike that was shared by the young lady herself, who at one time made an effort to change it to Martha. An attempt was instantly vetoed by the father, who declared that "Patty was her name, and Patty it should be." A fact that he lost no opportunity of impressing on her mind whenever he saw her in the least inclined to rebel against his authority.

"So he would have against any one that anybody else liked," was Patty's unflinching rejoinder. "But I've made up my mind to one thing, I won't give up Charley."

And Patty's eyes grew bright, and she set her foot down in a very decided manner.

"But my dear, what will you do?" said Mrs. Coldstream, looking very much distressed. "Your father declares that he shall not come into the house again. And you know as well as I do how sat he is in his way."

"I know he always contrives to be on the contrary side whatever happens. You need not look troubled, mother. I won't have any trouble with father if I can help it, if it is only for your sake. But I'll manage to have my own way for once in my life, as you shall see."

Patty smiled as she said this, and though her mother shook her head dubiously, as if she had little faith in the assertion, she offered no further resistance.

The next day they were all seated together in the family sitting room. Mr. Coldstream was in a rather melancholy mood; nothing having occurred for some time with which he could find any fault, or get up any contention.

Patty sat by the window, to all appearance completely absorbed in fashioning some dainty bit of embroidery, though occasionally her bright eyes glanced out upon the path that led to the road with expectant look.

Suddenly she heard a step. Even before her eyes fell upon the young gentleman, who was just opening the gate, the warm color flushed up from her cheeks to the temple, probably with anger, for she immediately exclaimed:

"I declare if that disagreeable Charley Reid isn't coming again!"

"Hey, what's that?" said Mr. Coldstream, pricking up his ears, as though, like a war-horse, he scented the battle afar off.

"Charley Reid," said Patty, very composedly, threading her needle. "I really wish he had some enough to see where he wasn't wanted. I suppose because I have talked to him considerably lately, merely to pass away the time he fancies I am in love with him."

"Here the young lady gave her head a toss as much as to say, whatever he may think, she hadn't the least idea of it."

"You showed your sense if you was, then," retorted her father, "instead of encouraging such a set of brainless popinjays, and which I am determined you shall do no longer. Mr. Reid is a very promising young man, as I have often had occasion to remark, and his preference is an honor to any lady."

Mr. Coldstream was blessed with a very convenient memory, and his daughter's language had aroused such a strong spirit of opposition, that he actually believed he had always regarded the young man with unusual favor.

"Those who like his company are welcome to it! I'm going up stairs," said Patty.

And rising from her seat, she began to pick up her work in a very cool, deliberate manner.

"You'll do no such thing, Miss Patty," said Mr. Coldstream, as soon as he could recover from his astonishment at the unprecedented audacity of her words and looks. "Just resume your seat if you please. And see, too, that you treat the young gentleman in a proper manner."

Patty flitted down into her seat, muttering something to which her father could not reply, as just at this moment the person in question entered.

The young gentleman, though noted for his ease and self-possession, was evidently embarrassed at his reception. The unexpected cordiality of the old gentleman, who the last time he was there had treated him with marked rudeness, and the unaccountable coolness of the daughter, puzzled him.

Mr. Coldstream darted a displeased glance at his daughter, regarding this as tacit rebellion against his authority.

"Patty," said Mr. Reid, clearing his throat, and speaking in a loud voice, "don't you see your neighbor, Mr. Reid?"

Patty rose stiffly from her seat, extending with a very ungracious air the two fore fingers to the young man.

As she did so she glanced around. Her mother's pompous air and Charley's rueful look were too much for her resistances,

and unable to conceal the strong inclination to laugh, she precipitately left the room, overturning the work box as she went, and scattering the contents at the feet of her lover, who had risen from his seat and who began seriously to fear that the young lady had taken leave of her senses. It was a long time before Mr. Coldstream's astonishment and anger would allow him to speak.

"Very rude and improper conduct," he said at last.

"If this is the way you are bringing up your daughter, Mrs. C., it is high time she was taken out of your hands."

The reader will readily conclude that under the circumstances Mr. Reid did not care to prolong his stay.

When he arose to leave Mr. Coldstream invited him to call again, in a tone and manner that would have been very gratifying to him had it not been for the fears he began to entertain that he had not obtained that hold on the heart that he was so desirous of winning, as he had supposed.

In the meantime Patty had run out the back way, down through the orchard, to the garden gate, which she knew he would pass, waiting for him.

Charley's countenance brightened as he caught a glimpse of her smiling face. What she said seemed to be satisfactory, so much so that at its conclusion he caught her in his arms, kissing repeatedly her cheeks and lips. And though Patty blushed, and said "For shame, Charley," she did not look in the least angry, nor did she make the slightest resistance.

Charley did not fail to respond to Mr. Coldstream's invitation, spending at his house at least two evenings in every week, taking very philosophically the various exhibitions of sullenness and ill temper with which Patty rewarded his perseverance, seeming, on the whole, to rather enjoy them than otherwise. This quite delighted Mr. Coldstream, who declared him to be vastly superior to the common run of young men, just the husband for Patty, inasmuch as he would have a mind of his own, and not give way to all her whims and caprices.

Patty immediately began to extol the grees and accomplishments of the elegant Alphonso Fitzpoole, following it up by lavishing upon him, when he next called, her sweetest smiles. This had the effect of elevating the young coxcomb to the seventh heaven of felicity, and from which he was brought rudely down by Mr. Coldstream coolly informing him "that his company was not desirable, and that furthermore, he need not trouble himself to call upon his daughter," much to the satisfaction of the latter, to whom Fitzpoole was an insufferable bore.

Encouraged by Mr. Coldstream's words and manner, and not at all discouraged by Patty's coolness, Charley made a formal proposal to the former for his daughter. As he was careful to insinuate that Patty's manner towards him was not calculated to inspire him with much hope, Mr. Coldstream immediately gave his approval.

"Never mind, Patty," he added "leave her with me. She will come round in time if she sees there is no help for it. And if you carry a steady hand with her, not giving her too much of her own way, she will make you as good a wife as you can find."

Mr. Coldstream smiled grimly to himself as he said this. And certainly Rarey never felt more satisfaction at an opportunity of subduing some vicious horse than did this amiable individual at the thought of bringing to terms his refractory daughter.

At the first opportunity he informed Patty of what he was pleased to term her "undeserved good fortune."

As he expected, she stoutly rebelled; and, as she expected, he as stoutly insisted. A stormy scene followed, and it was not till Mr. Coldstream gave her the alternative of marrying Mr. Reid, or leaving his house, that Patty yielded, and then it was with a very ill grace.

"I won't be married for months, at any rate," she said.

"You'll be married this day fortnight. I do not approve of long engagements, as I have often told you," was the anticipated rejoinder.

"Then it shall be done very quietly as in the future I shall need no further outfit and shall escape the annoyance and fatigue of shopping."

"You need not trouble yourself to give any further directions," replied Mr. Coldstream with a lofty air. "I am quiet competent to decide those points. You will be married in a manner suitable to your station, and also in the presence of your friends and acquaintances, and not slyly as though you were ashamed of the husband that I have selected for you."

Then taking a roll of bills from his pocket book, he handed it to his wife, saying:

"It is my wish that you see that Patty has everything, in the way of clothing, that is befitting my daughter should have. And if this sum is not sufficient you will call on me for more."

"It was Patty's wish to get at once to house-keeping. Though surrounded by every nominal comfort, she had never enjoyed the peace and freedom inseparable from a truly happy home, and which she now hoped to realize for herself. But she knew that Charley was not able to buy a house, neither would his moderate salary admit of his renting such a one as she wished. But she was aware that her father was the owner of several tenements, and had been hoping all along that he would offer to give them one, which he could well afford to do. She knew his peculiar disposition too well, however, to let him know that she had any such expectation or even wish.

One day she was conversing with one of her young friends, she remarked in a very confidential tone:

"We shall board, as a matter of course, I do not intend to tie myself down to house-keeping yet a while, I promise you!" Her father heard this, as she meant to do.

"Do not be too sure of that, Patty. I do not approve of young people boarding out, as I have often said before. It gets them in bad habits—the wife, especially; making her shiftless and extravagant, which you are too much inclined to be already. It is, of course, my intention to settle something on you the day of your marriage, and shall be a house."

"Charley will not be able to furnish it, so we shall have to board for a while at any rate."

"I'll take care of that. I rather think I am able to furnish a house as well as my neighbors. So don't flatter yourself you'll get off on that score."

Just then Charley entered the room, to whom he made known his intentions, asking him if he had any choice.

"I will leave that to you and Patty," he said, looking very much gratified; for it was something which he had expected.

"Well, Patty, what do you say?"

Now, if Patty had not known her father so well, she might have thought he was really desirous of a certifying her wishes in order to gratify them; but as it was, she was too wary to be caught in such a trap.

"I'll just go to house-keeping," she said, "I do not care much when. Only do not let it be that dull, lonely place on Pleasant street."

"The very one that is most suitable, as any one with the least particle of sense, would see. It is very convenient, in perfect repair, besides having a nice garden attached to it."

And taking his hat, he invited Charley to go over and examine it.

"The very one I wanted!" exclaimed Patty, gleefully as the door closed after them.

But there was something in her mother's eyes that instantly sobered her.

"I know what you are thinking of," she said, in a low tone. "And I am half ashamed of myself at acting such a deceitful part. But what can I do? You know very well how everything would be if I should speak and act as I feel, and that there is no other way to get along with father."

Mrs. Coldstream could not deny this.

"I am not blaming you, my dear," she said. "But this peculiarity in your father is calculated to cultivate in those living with him a spirit of artfulness and deception unless the disposition is naturally truthful and sincere, as I trust yours is. I hope in your new home you can act yourself, and will not try to be anything else."

"I know one thing," exclaimed Patty energetically, after a long and thoughtful silence, "that if I thought Charley would ever manage so, dearly as I love him, I would sooner die than place it in his power to make me so completely wretched."

It was not till Patty stood beside him whom her heart had so freely chosen, to be made his in the presence of God and man, that she dared to shadow forth the blissful and happy emotions that filled her bosom.

The change was so sudden and complete that her father noticed it.

"Ah, she is making the best of it, as I know she would," he said to his wife, in a tone of triumph. "See what it is to have firmness and judgment. If she could have her own way she would have married that contemptible coxcomb, Fitzpoole, instead of being the wife of an honest and sensible man."

As time passed on, the true worth of the heart she had won but binding it to her own by yet dearer ties, Patty felt that earth did not contain a happier home than her own. Her father, however took the whole credit to himself, declaring that she owed her happiness entirely to him, and often asked her if she did not remember how bent she was on rejecting Charley, and throwing herself away upon the most worthless man in town.

Patty never attempted to disprove these assertions, though she sometimes remarked, with a rueful smile, that she was not the only one person who "went by contraries."

LATE NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

THE ARMING OF THE SLAVES.

Advice from the Rebel Army in Favor of Conscribing Negroes.

[From the Richmond Inquirer, Nov. 4.]

GENTLEMEN—Allow me a brief space to bring again to public notice the subject of negro conscription and the probable action of the next Congress on this subject.

That the owners of fifteen negroes and upwards would prefer that Congress should conscript ten or even a greater percentage of their negroes for the army rather than the present law exempting them should be rescinded, there can be not the least question; that the negroes then remaining at home on large plantations would produce, with the attention of their masters, more than the whole number would if the master were conscripted, and they left intact, cannot be denied. Then what are the objections to bringing this power which has so long been overlooked, to bear upon our enemy, who are using men of every faith, clime and color to subdue us? Some pretend that the army has great aversion to seeing the negro conscripted; that they will not allow themselves to be put on an equality with the negro; others that there is a great principle of morality involved in thus forcing the negro to risk his life for the freedom of his master. If the first class would cultivate the society of our intelligent soldiers more they would discover the real sentiments of the army to be greatly in favor of negro conscription for recruiting the army for the ensuing spring.

As to those who entertain the latter view of "moral objection," &c., their opinions, conscientious and moral questions snare too much of the fanatical and Puritanical love for the negro which the Northernman professes when we see them unwilling to allow him to strike a blow against those who would enslave to a worse than Hindostan servitude both the master and servant.

That the negro will fight more faithfully for his master than for the Yankees no one can doubt who has seen the attachment of slaves to their masters in camp, and the reliance and faithfulness with which they sometimes discharge the most difficult and dangerous duties. Then, too, the wonderful change which would be brought upon them by giving such as were enlisted their immediate freedom, with the promise of a grant of land after the war, would cause them to acknowledge and look upon the Yankee as their inferior whom they now consider as their equal. Let this freedom be given them in due form by their masters, and solemnly confirmed by the seal of the court upon their being conscripted, and we would hear no more of negroes running to the enemy to be free. Contented and happy around the camp fires, they, with proper discipline and drill, would make us soldiers superior to any the enemy have yet brought against us.

Then Congress will have another vexed question that this negro conscription will dispose of, viz: Consolidation of regiments whose numbers have been reduced to mere skeletons; and we take it for granted Congress must consolidate many regiments, battalions, and companies. Let the officers thus thrown out, and others already out, and now doing nothing but troubling the authorities half the time to find something for them to do, be assigned to the command of these negro regiments and companies. Let them be placed in our seacoast garrisons, on our lines of communication and supply, and in camps of instruction, to be there drilled and prepared for the field, if we should need them, and who doubts but we will by the coming spring. It might be said these officers would object to commanding negro regiments and companies. But no, they will not if they have the proper qualities and qualifications for officers. It will take just such gallant men as those who have already lost their commands by leading them to the front of the battle, to command that respect from the negro which the Southern gentlemen know so well how to command, at the same time that he shows, without constraint, the uttermost kindness; and no officer should consider it any disparagement to him, to command these troops, but rather look upon it in the light of a difficult task, which the Government has assigned to him for his signal success in the past, and his ability to reduce to proper discipline, and make good soldiers, of the raw and rough material. Rather let him regard such assignment, or appointment, as a compliment to his fitness for command. In other words, only the best officers should be selected to command these troops, and our word for it, we will have in the fourth year of the war a new and powerful reinforcement, a force capable of anything less than the greatest emergency, and an offset to the hirings and blacks which the enemy are bringing against us which they never dreamed of. Do this now and we will only do what is evidently becoming more apparent with

will have to do sooner or later—namely, meet with the same material that class of the enemy's army which, unless counterbalanced thus, will form an important element in our defeat and subjugation. These remarks are dictated by a clear conviction of what is becoming more urgent by the great desire of a majority of our people and army for this enactment and by the circumstances around me, for be it noted that I write from a section of Virginia the most prosperous, and that there are ten farmers living adjacent owning more than twenty thousand acres of land between them; and from this broad area not one single soldier is furnished to the army. Think, Virginians of twenty thousand acres of land in Virginia, owned by ten different families, not furnishing a single representative in the army. If such be the case in Virginia, what must it be in the most populous South, where the extensive cotton fields of the rich planter extend for miles away. Yet these men are willing, yea, many of them are anxious, to contribute their portion of negroes to the service, and one hundred could be raised in this immediate neighborhood without material detriment to the farming interests of the country. Then can there be any reasonable wish on the part of Congress to delay legislation on this subject when the forces are wanted in the army, the officers are at hand to command them, and the masters are willing to contribute them?

Let Congress take this into consideration at an early day. Let us have prompt and vigorous action on this subject, and not have to lament, in the fall of 1865, the many reverses which would have been prevented by the organization of such a force.

How the Poor Live in London.—The larger part of the poor women in London get a living by charring and laundry work. The wages of the husband will not pay the six shillings rent for two rooms, and the schooling of two or three boys and girls, and keep the wolf from the door as well. The wife, then, must go out to work also. A mechanic, working for the shops in his own neighborhood, or for those at the West End, makes from ten shillings to one pound per week; the laborer the same sum. This leaves but a small surplus for clothes, I assure you, if any at all, after the rent is paid and the food consumed at the end of the week. I know as a fact that most wives who are delicate, or are unable for other reasons to go out to work, never eat meat themselves, and their children mainly subsist on bread and dripping, treacle-water and tea. Sometimes a luxury is improvised in the way of a herring, or an ounce or two of salt butter and a herring. This I know to be the fare of a poor family who, out of one pound five shillings per week, have six shillings and sixpence rent to pay, and to support five young children. The poor man must eat one good meal of meat now and then in a week, or his health would decline for want of proper nourishment, and his work would flag woefully in consequence. On the return of the wives from the wash tub or charring, they have only time to wash their children and put them to bed. All day some of the children have been at the ragged or national schools; perhaps one boy has been carrying about newspapers and parcels, or doctor's medicines, for three shillings and sixpence per week; another has had the care of the baby, as well as a small child, and has spent his time on different doletraps, exposed to the temptation of marbles, pica and tea, and countless perils to himself and charges in street affairs and quarrels of different kinds throughout the day.—Once a Week

Nevada.—In Nevada, the State question was carried, but the Democracy carried their entire ticket from Governor down to School Commissioners, which includes Congressman and an entire Democratic Legislature, which will, of course, send Democratic Senators to Washington. If a fair election (without interference of soldiers) could have been had in both Colorado and Nevada, the administration would have been repudiated beyond redemption.

An Aer Peru.—"Are you thinking of what I am saying?" said a teacher to young Miss A.—, after explaining to her, at some length, the difference between the major and minor key.

"Why, sir," replied Miss A.—, "I've been thinking all this time whether these keys are ivory or bone."

Three years ago the navy took New Orleans, and eleven thousand men held Louisiana. Today the navy holds New Orleans, and thirty thousand men cannot hold Louisiana. This is the way in which Mr. Lincoln conquers, keeps and pacifies the South.

A gentleman in New York lost his arm the other day by carelessly resting it partially outside the window of a horse car in which he was riding. A passenger wagon struck it, shattering it to the shoulder.

Spain are now an article of luxury in Parisian eating houses. The larger restaurants employ boys expressly to coax the snails out of their shells, when they are instantly seized and cooked.

A Harems spanned the entrance of Charleston harbor a few days ago while the rebel and Union flag of truce boats were conferring together.

An apprentice to an English iron foundry, who had played truant for a day, was sentenced by the magistrate to ten month's imprisonment.

It is said that to tell lies before you get up in the morning is no sin—it is only lying in bed.