

23 INDEPENDENT.

in every corner of this world that insures success so completely as does perfect independence. People who are always waiting for help may wait for a long time as a general thing; a little assistance, a little influence, is not to be had for asking, but there is always something one can do for himself. Do it, whatever it is, and do it with a will. Nothing leads to another.

If you are a girl don't sit still and hope a rich man will marry you while your old father toils for your daily bread. Learn how to help yourself, and take care of yourself as much as possible. Rather be one who does things for others than who must have things done for you or suffer.

Two hands, two feet, sight and strength, these ought to enable you to dispense with help while you are young and healthy.

I like men who can defy adverse circumstances, and could earn a living in any quarter of the world in which they were dropped down; who can roll up their sleeves and set to work at almost anything that offers, and who can even sew on their own buttons and make themselves a cup of tea when deprived of the help of womankind.

I like women who are not annihilated when the "girl" goes off on a bloat; who could preside at the White House, or scrub the kitchen floor, if either unpleasant effort were necessary; who are not afraid to travel a few miles alone, and who can split kindling wood and uncork a bottle with the scissors, if nothing better is at hand; and who, moreover, if plunged into the depth of poverty, would fight their own way out of it, asking help of no man.

Independence makes no woman less loving. The most helpful women are the boldest and strongest. I think; and as for a man, never trust him in any capacity if he has not within him the true spirit of independence, without which neither strength nor sweetness may be hopeful.

In the battle of life there is but one way to succeed; fight it out yourself. Give the helping hand when you may. Take it if in some case straight it is offered freely; but never ask for it; be independent as far as man may be, if you would honor yourself, or be honored by others, or be happy.

IT IS BETTER.

It is better to wear a calico dress without trimming, if it be paid for, than to owe the shopkeeper for the most elegant silk cut and trimmed in the most bewitching manner.

It is better to live in a log cabin all your own, than in a brownstone mansion belonging to somebody else.

It is better to walk forever than to run to death for a horse and carriage.

It is better to sit by the pine table, for which you paid three dollars ten years ago than send home a new extension, black-swan-neck top, and promise to pay for it next week.

It is better to use the old creaked chairs and two-ply carpet, than tremble at the bill sent to me from the upholsterer's for the most elegant parlor set ever made.

It is better to meet your business acquaintances with a free "I don't care you a cent" smile, than to dodge around the corner to escape a dun.

It is better to pay the street or gas-grinder two cents for music, if you must have it, than to owe for a grand piano.

It is better to gaze upon bare walls than pictures unpaid for.

It is better to eat thin soup from earthen-ware if you owe your landlord nothing, than to slice off lamb and roast beef, and know that it does not belong to you.

It is better to let your wife have a fit of hysterics, than to run to her for new furniture, or clothes, or jewelry.

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