

THE INCONSISTENT SEX.

"Dear baby smile today!" she cried. "He said 'mammy' as plain as plain could be. And it was sweet his dimpled smile to see and sweet his gurgling baby laugh to hear. Some quiet! Perhaps he will amaze. The dear!"

And, oh, I am so happy!
"Baby is growing big so fast. And, oh, the sudden tears gushed to her eyes."
"He'll speak and walk and grow so big and have another best and woe and wed. And have no longer need of me," she said.

—J. L. Henton in "The Quitting Bee."

A LESSON IN ECONOMICS.

A Young Woman Gives a Young Man Some Valuable Tips.

Again it is a Washington girl. This time she appears as an angel of economy to a young man who needs that kind of angelic administration about as much as any other young man in the Capital City, and she is just as successful as if she were trampling him under her scornful heel and making him feel how utterly helpless man is in conflict with the irresistible.

"By Jove," he was saying, "this sort of thing is simply intolerable!"

"What sort of thing?" she inquired, with admirable poise.

"Why, I have just had to pay a messenger 40 cents to deliver a note up town for me, and he was gone less than half an hour. It would be cheaper to have hired a cab and horse and driver, and still cheaper to have sent it by mail under a special delivery stamp."

"What was the note?" she asked, womanlike, before she thought.

"A response to an invitation to dinner."

"Forty cents is cheap for a good dinner," she smiled.

"But I couldn't go," he wailed. "It was a declination, and the 40 cents on top of that. Really, though, this messenger service is a rank imposition and should not be tolerated. Twenty-five cents an hour is ample, with short distances at 10 or 15 cents. The convenience is easily worth that, but more than that is plain extortion and the greed of monopolies."

"You have my sympathy. You are the more entitled to it because you don't seem to know any better. Now, why aren't you as bright as a man I know, who hasn't any more money than you have? When he has a note or a book to send to a girl, he doesn't waste 40 cents on a grinding monopoly—oh, that's what it is," she laughed, as she noted his look of surprise. "We have a call in our house, and I am compelled to use it at times—but he does a much better thing. He just adds 10 cents to his 30, slips a note to the florist, orders 50 cents' worth of violets sent to the girl, puts the note in with the flowers, and there you are. See? Only 10 cents out, and think how much in—for girls do love flowers, even 50 cents' worth."

The young man began gasping for air. "Or," she went right on, "if it is the season when flowers are more expensive than messenger service, just substitute candy for flowers. You can get something perfectly lovely for 60 cents, and to add a book or pleasant note to it makes it well worth the girl's kindest thought and your 20 cents extra. Now, is the plan clear to your stupid brain?"

Whether it was or not the young woman that very afternoon received a delightful note of thanks for valuable information, accompanied by a 50 cent bunch of violets from a well known florist.—Washington Star.

Precious Meals.

Almost any dish which had to recommend it rarity, costliness, indigestibility, and, to our way of thinking, nastiness, was sure to take with the Roman epicure. And if he were unable to make it costly any other way he would add powdered precious stones or gold dust. Nero dined on one occasion from a peacock which was sprinkled with diamond dust, and specimens of that bird dressed with gold or with crushed pearls were by no means a rarity at the triclinia of the moneyed Romans. A dish of parrots' tongues was a great delicacy. But a dish of parrots' tongues which had been capable, when in their proper place, of framing words, was of almost incalculable value, which increased in a direct ratio with the vocabularies of the defunct parrots.

Another bird for which the Roman epicure was in the habit of paying fabulous prices was the phenocyptrix, which is believed to have been the ptarmigan. It had its home in the most northerly parts of Scotland and Norway, and as this made it hard to get at the Romans appreciated it all the more and put it in the same rank with ostriches, buzzards and peacocks. The tongues of these birds were specially prepared, together with the brains, and took the place which a hors d'oeuvre would now take.—New York Post.

Her Point of View.

They were discussing the construction of a new gown.

"From a hygienic point of view and merely as a matter of health," suggested the dressmaker, "I think it should be made"—

The haughty beauty stopped her by a gesture.

"Hygienic point of view!" she exclaimed. "Matter of health! What has that to do with it? When I want health, I will go to a doctor. When I want style, I come to you. We will now eliminate all absurdities and discuss this purely from a common sense standpoint. Will it be fashionable and becoming?"—Philadelphia Times.

"De man dat boasts ob his cha'ty," said Uncle Eben, "makes some folks criticize. But he ain't ez bad ez de man dat ain't got no sense foh boastin, eben if he wanted ter."—Washington Star.

The man who has begun to live more seriously within begins to live more simply without.—Bishop Brooks.

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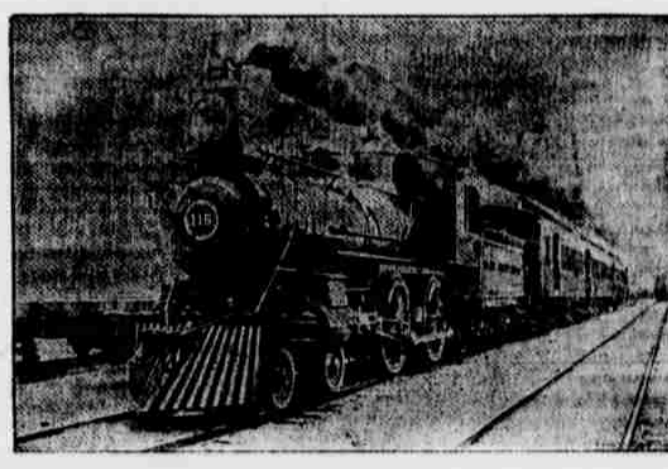


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