

POVERTY VERSUS HIGH SOCIAL STANDING.



JULIET V. STRAUSS.

I used to believe with my whole heart that all my social lacks were due to poverty.

It is very easy for poor people to imagine that they are slighted or treated with scant consideration on account of their poverty, because it is so often the case.

A woman with a costume "faked up" from an old black skirt and a homemade lace waist with the wrong kind of sleeves in it fluds it quite naturally to believe that her lack of proper costume and means of entertaining is the reason for her being "tag tail" in the circle to which she belongs by birth and bringing up.

We pretty nearly assume our own position in the world. Again, it may be because she is prettier in her old rags than the other women in their smart costumes, or it may be that her own unerring sense of what is fine and worth having excludes her naturally from what is popular.

I have seen lovely princess rag tags who had all these qualities and who were poor and pretty, and proud and talented, and sarcastic and sensitive, and audacious and timid, whom I would rather resemble than any smart society dame I ever saw.

When you realize that you are not an active member in your social world and that there is much lacking in your life, you at once begin looking for compensations; and whoever looks for compensations is sure to find them, and they are so much more worth having than any number of first-hand pleasures are the fortunate ones.

Long, long ago, I stopped grieving over being tag tail. From being a small tragedy it turned into the most heartsome comedy, as it will always do when one learns to live one's own life.

Never shall I forget the first time I went to a semisocial event at a very fashionable and exclusive house in the city. I entered the house in deep humility, for here I supposed I was going to see something really great and fine.

I was so ignorant of life, I really believed that rich and great people in the city had a finer quality of mind than any people I had ever seen. A person of worldwide celebrity was present. After sitting dumbly amid all this greatness a while I began to prick up my ears, and what do you think I discovered? Why, just this:

Most of the women who had the affair in charge were silly and affected beyond the limit. What they said was beside the point, vapid and tiresome, and the celebrity—why she was exactly like the plain village woman I knew when I was a little girl. She was real. I got a new idea of the quality of greatness right there, and from that day I have realized that whoever is quite sincere is great.

It makes no difference what position you occupy in your social world as long as you can get out of life something worth having. I doubt that the social leader of any fashionable set can ever tell you as much, sketch for you as many amusing incidents or give you so clear a conception of vivid human characteristics as some person who, in his younger days, at least, occupied the humble position of tag tail.—Chicago Journal.

OUR BUDGET OF FUN.

HUMOROUS SAYINGS AND QUOTATIONS HERE AND THERE.

Johns and Jokelets that are supposed to have been recently born—Sayings and Quotations that are Old, Curious and Laughable—The Week's Humor.

"Conscience doth make cowards of us all," remarked the grocer with the quotation habit.

"According to that," rejoined the cynical customer, "you must be a brave man."

"Because why?" queried the man behind the counter.

"You don't seem to have any conscience," answered the c. c.

Prodigious. Do you know a man got up and offered me his seat on the train this morning.

"Well, my dear girl, I don't see as that was such a prodigy of urbanity?"

"Not of urbanity, perhaps, but of sub-urbanity! Think of it!"—Puck.

A Fishing Snack.



Patience—And did you scream when he kissed you?

Patrice—Of course! But he said he liked to hear me scream, so he demanded several encores!—Yonkers Statesman.

Hard on Teeth.

Bacon—Doesn't smoking discolor the teeth?

Egbert—Oh, yes; my wife left hers in the bathroom, where a lamp was smoking, and it nearly ruined them!—Yonkers Statesman.

Vain Wishes.

Husband—I wish I had some of those good old-fashioned biscuits like mother used to make for me.

Wife—And I wish I had some of those nice new-fashioned clothes like father used to buy for me.

Said Food.

"I'm afraid," remarked the Cincinnati hostess, "that you will find our Ohio River water rather distasteful."

"Not at all, madam," rejoined the guest from Milwaukee. "On the contrary, it's the best I ever ate."

Deep Disappointment.

"Yes," said one Cincinnati belle to the other, "her parents are fearfully disappointed in the match she made."

"For what reason?"

"She married a man who plays pin-ochle instead of backgammon."—Washington Star.

Worried of Abstractions.

"There is some abstraction in knowing you are right, even if the world does not recognize it," remarked the Idealist.

"Not much," remarked young Mrs. Turkina. "I can't help wishing Charley would sing in opera one night and instead of on the one that ought to."—Washington Star.

About to Blow Himself.

"I will write to the king about it," she said. And she did.

"Your Most Gracious Majesty," she wrote in her letter, "Miss Thursday and I have no flaps to wear to the court ball. What shall we do?"

"Come without them, Oskar," was the answer they got back the same day. They went to the ball, and had a memorable time.

In Good Season.

In a place in New Jersey the town officers had just put some fire extinguishers in their big buildings. One day one of the buildings caught fire, says the Philadelphia Ledger, and the extinguishers failed to do their work.

A few days later at the town meeting some citizens tried to learn the reason.

After they had freely discussed the subject one of them said, "Mr. Chairman, I make a motion that the fire extinguishers be examined ten days before every fire."

Shortest Name for a Street.

The thoroughfare which can boast the shortest name of any in London is D Mews, in the locality of Regent's Park. It is the only surviving "alphabet" street—i. e., streets whose names were simply a letter of the alphabet.

Some years ago nearly every letter in the alphabet gave its name to a thoroughfare, but D Mews is the only one which has not had its name lengthened.—Tit-Bits.

Quickly Supplied.

There have been many strange things in English history. One of the most curious was recently mentioned by a little schoolgirl.

"The hydra," said this much-informed young person, "was married to Henry the Eighth. When he cut her head off, another one sprang right up."

Perhaps it would help a little in getting rid of the pest if every one included in his spring medicine a little dandelion tea.

Many a man takes a better half in a half-hearted manner.

Wally.

"Wal," said Farmer Koratop, "thar ain't nothin' that Ruhs Meidlers loves more'n a newspaper notoriety."

"What's he bin a-doin' now?" asked his wife.

"Pahtin' his barn ag'in, an' thar ain't no occasion fur it 'cept ter git his name in the paper."—Philadelphia Press.

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