

The Action Free Press

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MY STANDARD

To live an honestly as I can; To live in honor where I stand; To take what comes of good or ill; And cling to faith and honor still; To do my best, and let that stand; Then, when I am no more around; And then, should failure come to me, Still work and hope for victory.

To have no secret place wherein I sit alone to sin or sin; The world is wide, I'm told, As when my every deed is known; To live undaunted, unafraid; Of what may come; to have daring; To be without prudence or shame; Exactly what men think I am.

AN "IMPORTED" GOWN

Unquestionably, the great majority of dealers in gowns and imported goods conduct their business honestly and in good faith; but the opportunities for dishonesty are many, and once in a while while some of them do indeed reveal fraud, as in the case of the following story from an article in the Illustrated Sunday Magazine:

"A rich woman, Mrs. Anna Adams, chanced abroad a beautiful gown of an unusual shade of green that suited her complexion wonderfully. She liked the dress so well that she wore it four or five times, which was remarkable for this particular instance, for she was one of those who greatly dislike to be seen in the same garment over and over again in the same evening, given up on more than one occasion. With the green gown she wore a bunch of Chinese Jade, oddly carved, and a pair of earrings to match. They were extremely fine pieces of jewelry that she had purchased in Canton. They matched her gown admirably. On one of the few occasions when she wore this green dress she lost the Jade from her earing six months before."

More than six months after she had discarded her green dress she bought what she called a "simple little brown dress." Of course it was "imported." It had the taste of well-known French house wares in the proper place. It was not, for her, an extremely expensive dress; the price was only one hundred dollars.

One day at home she sat on the mahogany piano bench amusing herself at the piano, when in glancing along the floor to see some mischievous child had spilt some paint on the piano. Looking down, she saw a long mark on the polished surface of the mahogany piano. In an instant she was on her feet, looking about to see what could possibly be somewhere in the folds of her dress. But there was no pin to be found. Finally, however, she discovered a small, hard lump in the hem of one of the folds. When she took it out it was a very small place, perhaps a quarter of an inch long, where the thread of the hem had not caught. By patience and skill she forced the hard lump from the "pocket" and then hemmed it through the opening. It was the carved bit of green jade that she had lost from her earing six months before.

The more she thought about the matter the more thoroughly convinced she was that her "simple little brown dress" had been dyed and was originally a beautiful green. She was determined to find out. The man who bought the green dress from her said that he did not remember just where he had sold it, but he had worked on pieces of the brown dress and learned that it had originally been green.

She had sold a two-hundred-and-sixty-dollar green imported dress for fifteen dollars, and then bought it back as a brown imported dress for one hundred and fifty dollars.

DRESS AND CHARACTER

The whole secret of dressing lies in appropriateness. See that your apparel fits your manners and your habits and your circumstances. Most people, with or without a good education, are dressed for special occasions with fair propriety; they do not wear a frock coat in the evening, or a white shirt and tie in the daytime; but there are subtle harmonies underlying these articles of dress which are often overlooked.

The next housewife does not want to do her morning dressing in silk or velvet even though it be tailored. She prefers to wear a woolen skirt, and if necessary an apron. Costume simple, indeed, but tidy and fresh.

There is also the appropriateness of age, which so many people overlook. The extremes of fashion, the dashing colors, the startling cuts, which do well for people under thirty, do not suit the taste of adults. If you think you are making sixty look like thirty by following them, you are much mistaken. Sixty is only emphatic age. Age should wear neatness, but not gaucheness.

And there is the appropriateness of condition, the fitting of your dress to your figure and your social surroundings. The appropriate restraint of all neglected in this decoration is ours. Are we not all as good as our neighbors, and shall we not dress as well? We do not drop our standards, nor make us more or less good, nor does it go far toward concealing our deficiencies, moral or mental. Most of our neighbors know quite well what we are, and we are not popular for going beyond it, even when they are doing the same thing themselves.

The truth is, we are all writing our characters upon the eyes of the world in clothes over and over again, and that we ought to appreciate when we read what is written in the garments of others. Strange that we do not!

A good deal of common sense in laundry life is obscured by the over-dressing indicates a disorderly life. A simple habit of dressing indicates a simple life. Those are the qualities which should be most dear to us, but who can never get them on properly, a button is off or a hook unfastened, or a seam awry. You know just what those people are. And so on, plain things, but bold and modest, plain and trim and tidy. You know just what those people are. And so on, plain hundreds of varieties and gradations.

If dress is always as inevitably the expression of character, then it behoves us, for that will be as far as reasons, to have a character worth expressing.

BRITISH POST OFFICE IN 1918

The British post office, in spite of war, continues to report a steady increase in its operations. Its spending of the telephone service showed an amount of £1,600,000, but it cost over £2,600,000 in operating telegraphs. It has never been able to meet the increased demand for mail, as well as the conduct of the telephone and telegraph systems, is beginning to show some improvement. An automatic telephone service for London to cost \$3,000,000 is planned.

THE RETIRED COURTOIS

"You know," said the lady whose husband can run down a man, you must have been walking in carelessly. I am a very careful driver. I have been driving a car for seven years."

"Lady, you've got nothing on me. I've been parking for fifty-four years."

THE OLD MAN OF THE BIG CLOCK TOWER



went into above leather tanning and Mr. Storrey's oldest son, Fred, was admitted to partnership, and the firm name became W. H. Storrey & Son. It was a great success, and the head of the firm died. Fred died a few years later. Over thirty years ago the present commandos factory on Bowes Avenue was built.

After the war, business left the original premises the harness business was resumed there. J. H. Mathewson, W. H. Gordon, and W. J. Humphries conducted the business, which was conducted by G. Gilliom and Hurford & Chisholm. Starkman now conducts the general mercantile second-hand furniture business there.

The store occupied by Mrs. Jennie McDougall as a grocery and the glass factory moved to Bowes Avenue.

This was done after John Arthurs bought the property. He kept store for a time, and John P. Warden had a hardware store there for a short time, and then followed, with French, Hart, and W. J. Humphries as managers. E. S. Hart then had a grocery store and the late John R. Livingston fol-

lowed him.

The corner lot occupied by the Johnstone block has a history. This was the home of Ramsay Adams, a hachet man.

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