

especially useful to stout figures, as it lengthened the waist and made the shoulders look much narrower.

The polonaises illustrated are of three materials of a fancy cloth, with one of the invisibly woven designs on it, worn with a plain velvet skirt in the large design. The next figure wears a rep polonaise with embroidered spots and a velvet skirt also. The third figure wears a costume of cashmere light cloth or serge, with a waistcoat and trimmings of velvet. The third polonaise is of velveteen, and has a skirt of thin cloth, silk, or serge, with pine-cones of velvet *appliqué* on each of the wide pleats.

The second single figure wears a simple walking dress of serge, or perhaps thin cloth, with tucks at intervals on the skirt, or bands sewn on flatly. This is suitable for the walking or school dress of most young girls, and may be worn either with or without a cape to increase the warmth.

For walking purposes for young ladies, nothing has been so popular for a long time as the short jackets of coloured cloth, which are edged with feather trimming or with fur, and worn over skirts of any colour. Some of them have *revers* of velvet; some have not, and are buttoned plainly up the front; some are braided and some are double-breasted, while others have a plastron of velvet up the front. In many of those which I see worn I have no doubt it is only to some small alteration that they owe their good appearance, and it is wonderful how much may be done now with any cloth jacket which has become a little shabby. Later on they will be braided or trimmed with wide bands of velvet, and I hear that elastic cloth or stockingette will be more used than even it used to be. Plush shoulder-capes will be much worn for extra warmth this spring, and all the new mantles seem to be of one shape—very short at the back, with long stole-like points in front. *Apropos* of this, I must remark that I was told by a clever girl the other day that the capes of last year of velvet and brocade could be turned into stylish mantles for this year by adding the long ends to the fronts, and trimming them round with chenille fringe or feather trimming. If the material of the cape cannot be matched, the ends should be made of anything as a foundation, and that should be covered with the trimming, so as to hide it completely.

Bonnets are still small, and not very obtrusive; many of them have straw crowns and velvet fronts. Embroidered and beaded crowns are decidedly popular, and will continue so; and I hear that we are to have quite a novel importation from Paris in the shape of transparent bonnets—so much so, that the hair will be plainly shown through them. Black straw hats and bonnets, trimmed with black velvet, and gold beads and small ornaments sewn upon it, are very much worn; or else they are ornamented with yellow flowers, such as the most popular "Lenten lilies." Parma violets, too, seem much liked, both for hats and bonnets; but nothing was ever so wonderful as the big butterflies that I have just seen, which are matched by dragon-flies and beetles. As copies from Nature, they are really works of art; but I neither like them nor the mushrooms and other fungi that are sent over from Paris. There is a feeble attempt to revive the old-fashioned cap-fronts under the top of the "Marie Stuart" bonnets, which are amongst the most popular styles worn; and the bow of velvet or band is intended to fill up the cavity at one side of the pointed front.

The illustration of the hat gives one of the most recent shapes. The crown is square, the head being long, and the brim rolled at one side more than the other. Hats are made in this way, very frequently of velvet, to match the costume, and the feathers at the side are

of a lighter shade than the velvet. On the whole, the hats and bonnets are simpler and more severe than they were.

"London smoke" is still popular, but very little blue seems likely to be used. Brown, under the names of "coffee," "smoke," "tan," and "leather," seems to be the favourite hue of the spring. Yellows are beautifully clear and pure, and are worn under the names of "canary," "cowslip," "daffodil," and "primrose." The last-named shade will be used for bridesmaids' dresses—so I heard the other day.

Did I say that bronze kid shoes and boots are to be used with brown stockings and brown dresses? And I also see that shoes of scarlet morocco are to be worn with black stockings and black dresses in the house. So we have really got back to the tales of Hans Christian Andersen and the days of his "Little Red Shoes!"

## ETIQUETTE IN WALKING, RIDING, AND DRIVING.



THE question of how we should conduct ourselves, and order our words within the precincts of a friend's house or our own home, when meeting our equals in society, and comparatively sheltered from public notice, we have already considered. We now turn to the question of out-door comportment in the public roads and streets, and exposed to the observation and coarser comments of a mixed crowd of spectators; and it will be seen that the rules that good feeling or the custom of the time prescribe for our guidance under these circumstances, apply with but trifling variation to walking, riding, and driving alike.

Until within less than half a century ago, no young unmarried gentlewoman could walk through the streets and parks, or go on a little shopping expedition, unattended by a footman. It was his business to guard his young mistress, and carry her shawl, umbrella, and parcels. Even when two accompanied each other, unless in their own square, or the distance to be traversed were very short, they were equally attended by a man-servant, who followed at a distance of about eight or ten paces. Even now, amongst the "upper ten," young unmarried women do not appear in the streets alone. They have a *dame de compagnie* or maid in attendance upon them, and it would be quite out of the question for them to be seen in an omnibus shoulder to shoulder with "all sorts and conditions of men." This is the rule which "society" imposes on those who claim to be within its upper circles.

But habits and opinions are subject to modifications, according to the exigencies of the times, or individual necessity, and the pressure now felt by multitudes amongst the gentry, and even the untitled members of the aristocracy, who are so rigidly bound by the laws of etiquette, is very great. The necessity for sending their daughters to training schools with a view to their becoming self-supporting has forced itself on their unwilling recognition, and wrought a change in various respects. The restraints which the conditions of birth formerly imposed have been loosened, if not unavoidably abolished, and the claims

of bread-earners for a still greater freedom of action must be patent to every reflecting mind.

But an increasing weight of personal responsibility accompanies this increase of liberty, and to you, my young readers who enjoy the latter, and whose reduced circumstances, or whose condition in life leave you so much unguarded, I must give a few kindly hints. You must learn to guard yourselves, and the ways and means are within the reach of all.

In the first place, I must charge you, when walking in the streets, on a public promenade or garden, always to avoid looking at any man in passing. Let it suffice to do so at a distance, merely to distinguish between strangers and acquaintances, and to bow if need be. Remember that one of the "rules of the road" is that pedestrians take to the right; a precaution found indispensable in crowded thoroughfares. Otherwise, your way is impeded and you obstruct that of others. Where there are but few passengers meeting each other, we often see an idiotic-looking pair see-sawing from side to side, their faces almost touching, and always at cross-purposes, each apparently endeavouring to stop the progress of the other! You may easily avoid making such a silly spectacle by keeping steadily to your own side. An exception may, however, arise, where a man and woman meet in a spot free of any great concourse of persons, when—be it to the right, or to the left—he must give her the inside of the pathway. This he may even manage to do when taking the right side of a great thoroughfare. In fact, it is the man that should take the initiative in selecting the side on which he and a lady are to pass each other, that he may the better consult her comfort and safety.

It is possible that you may meet someone whose notice you would prefer to avoid, or whose recognition by yourself circumstances would render objectionable. What is called "cutting" is highly objectionable, but the avoidance of an exchange of looks may be equally feasible, as desirable. If likely to meet such an individual in the street, keep your eyes about you before approaching too near for polite avoidance. Turn to speak to a companion; take out your handkerchief, or arrange some portion of your dress; go into a shop, if need be, or look in at the window. If on a public promenade, turn back some moments before meeting while still as far from the individual in question as possible.

In passing acquaintances more than once on the same day, it is not necessary to bow a second time; should your eyes meet, a slight smile of recognition would suffice. At a flower show, or other exhibitions, you might make some little appropriate observation *en passant*, which would be in good taste.

It is not usual, although optional, to give introductions out of doors, when casually meeting an acquaintance, whether a man or woman, on which account the more brief the interview the better. Your companion need not leave your side from any feeling of delicacy, as no confidences are exchanged in public highways, but lest they should feel "left out in the cold," as I said, let the exchange of salutations be of short duration. Were you and your companion parent and child, brothers or sisters, or any such near relations, the case would be different, and to introduce them would be natural.

Again. Should you meet a male friend or relative with whom you are sufficiently intimate to allow of your joining company, if he or a companion were smoking you would be lacking in tact if you did more than make a mere friendly remark, such as "I hope you are all well at home?" or, "Shall we meet at So-and-So's?" "I won't stop you now," and then pass on. If you delayed to converse, it would necessitate their throwing away their



cigars, a sacrifice to the making of which you should not expose them.

In reference to these out-of-door meetings, I will venture to offer a word to the "girls' brothers." Suppose that two men were walking together, and that one of them raised his hat to a lady, the other should raise his likewise in a formal manner, without smiling, as the salutation should not be repeated were he to meet them again without an introduction. In accordance with the same rule, should a man meet two ladies, with one of whom only he were acquainted, he should raise his hat to both. Supposing that he wished to speak a few words to his lady friend, it would be better bred to turn and walk back a few steps with them than to keep them standing in the road or street. Were his friend alone and young, unless on very intimate terms with her family, it would not be etiquette to walk more than a short distance with her, unless with their knowledge of such an eventuality and sanction. If he desire to cultivate a still closer intimacy, it should be under the protection of her home, that of his own parents, or a mutual friend's house. Out of doors, the girl would be exposed to unnecessary comment and the mischievous tattling of idle tongues.

That a man should always change places with a lady with whom he is walking, no matter how often, so as to place himself on the outside of the foot-way, it seems scarcely necessary to remind "our boys;" the naturally courteous would do so intuitively. It might not, however, occur to them that they should not flourish a stick, whirling it round and round like a wheel (as I have often seen young fellows do) when standing to talk with women, and so running the risk of striking them, perhaps, in the face.

But to return to my girl-readers. Remember that your dress, voice, and general deportment when walking should be very quiet. Subdue your voice, refrain from laughing, and hold yourself erect and steady. Never stumble about, and roll over on your companion; be as dignified and self-possessed as may lie within your power. You may not dress as brightly when taking a walk as when driving. A bright dress attracts attention, and you have not the same protection in walking amongst "the madding crowd" as when in a carriage. As to your voice, it should be almost inaudible to any passer-by. Do not invite the observation of strangers, nor make old apple-women, "cabbies," and crossing-sweepers parties to your opinions and pleasantries. Vulgar people have an unaccountable fancy for talking loud, expressly to be heard by strangers; and a proclivity for telling all their private affairs for their information.

A few words now on the subject of riding and driving. But before giving any suggestions I must remark on the habit which so much obtains amongst half-bred people, and is sufficient in itself to stamp them as such, namely, the confounding of the terms to "ride," and to "drive." You ride any description of animal (and you may, after the same style, ride a bicycle), but, whether personally or by proxy, you "drive" in a carriage, or any similar vehicle, be it in a sledge, waggon, or railway carriage. It is useless to adduce examples of the use of the term "ride" by distinguished authors; learning and talent are one thing, and the modes of expression and code of manners obtaining amongst the aristocracy is another. In many instances "fashion" is not bound by rules of grammar, nor by pronouncing dictionaries. In the present case, however, she may claim to be correct, and this without at all impugning the general good-breeding of some who take exception to her rule on the point in question.

I will now suppose you to be on a visit in a country house, and a horse placed at your

service, say for the space of a week. Although unnecessary, as a rule, for ladies to fee indoor man-servants, a gratuity to the groom must be given, from half-a-crown to five shillings, according to your age and position.

With reference to driving, the question of fees to the coachman is regulated thus. Supposing that you drive alone unaccompanied by a member of the family, you will have to give him, perhaps, a couple of shillings or half-a-crown before leaving. In some foreign countries fees are given on every such occasion.

When invited to a pic-nic, the promoter of the entertainment will probably give the orders for vehicles; but those who avail themselves of them pay for them, as also their railway fares. But the rules in reference to such entertainments are subject to variations, and you should compare notes with others likewise invited, so as to arrive at a general agreement.

Simple as it may seem to those who have been accustomed to the use of a carriage from childhood, it may be expedient for others to tell them how to enter and where to place themselves. The choice of the foot to be placed on the carriage step must be determined by the seat to be taken. If that facing the horses, place the right foot on the step and the left into the carriage; if with the back to the horses, the left foot should be placed on the step and the right into the carriage.

The "place of honour" is at the back of the carriage, facing the horses, and it is reserved for the person of highest rank, the elderly, or the matrons of the party. The front seat, with the back to the horses, is called that of "youth and beauty," and if there be a gentleman it is here that he must sit, married or unmarried, so long as there are two ladies to occupy the back seat. Age and infirmity, however, may be accepted as an excuse for the infringement of the rule. If the carriage be closed, it is usual for a man to remove his hat.

Should your hostess or friend request you to precede her, and to get into the vehicle first, do as you are desired at once, without further complimenting about it.

Should your friends hire a carriage and invite you to accompany them, you may accept the attention without offering to share in the expenses. But, should the expedition be by public train, steamer, or otherwise, pay your own fare quickly. If your male host be first in paying for all, your own tact must be your guide as to how far you may press your claim to pay for yourself, and when it would be in better taste to accept the attention gracefully. You should never let anyone imagine that you were too "high and mighty" to accept a trifling obligation from a friend. This does not, however, apply to the case when the favour is from a young or unmarried man.

When seated in a carriage you should not sit as you would in a chair, of which you appropriate the entire use; because you should so sit as to turn towards your next neighbour, and move your shoulder out of the way. Were you on a chair you should sit quite straight in it; but then you can move it, so as to face your companion, whereas you cannot move the seat of the carriage, and on that account should place yourself in the corner.

We will suppose that one of the girls' brothers is riding, and that he meets some lady acquaintances. Should there be any reason for stopping to speak with them, he must dismount, and stand between them and his horse, if unattended by a groom, who would take the reins. Where this act of polite consideration is neglected, the horse moves about, stamps, turns round, and tosses his head, and switches his tail, and I have seen ladies jumping out of such an animal's

way. On this account you should bow and pass on, and avoid any appearance of wishing to detain the rider, and oblige him to dismount, perhaps on a muddy road.

If returning home on a country road, in company with friends, all driving in open carriages in single file, you should not break the order of procession, and drive past them, without asking them, *en passant*, to excuse your so doing, "as you were obliged to hasten home." Again, were you to meet a funeral procession, leave as much space for it as possible, and halt; if walking, face the *cortège*, and (if a man) raise your hat as the hearse and the first carriage pass; after which continue your walk or ride. Were you in a carriage bid the coachman to wait until all have passed. In crowded thoroughfares such seemly acts are *not easily observed*, and you must do what you can. Those in sorrow are sensitive to every indication of sympathy, and of respect for their dead; and my readers must recognise in them the principle on which good breeding is founded. No little act which kindness may dictate is too trifling for observance, or, like the poor "cup of cold water," for acceptance, for they may be classed amongst those graceful and gracious things that are "lovely and of good report."

SOPHIA F. A. CAULFEILD.

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The honorary secretary of the Homes for Working Girls has informed the Editor that the real sympathisers with the establishment of the Girls' Own Home, and those who have more largely sent in subscriptions, are girls of the poorer class who can less easily afford such expenditure. These, of course, like the widow who cast her mite into the treasury, will be greatly blessed for their noble self-denial and loving interest, but the Editor wishes to know why the wealthier class should be so behind-hand in their help? As he knows that his readers include the richest and best girls in the land, he begs to say that his own collecting card is not quite filled with names, and therefore will be glad to add to it any contributions, not under ten shillings, that may be sent to him for the purpose. These would be acknowledged by him by post as well as printed in the subscription lists.