

Hand-Shaking

"Who is it that will shake hands with me?" asks Job. "A man void of understanding strikes hands, and becometh surety in the presence of his friends," said the wise King of Israel. In this old-world custom of striking hands, hand-shaking, no doubt, originated, for, before it became a mere friendly greeting, a shake of the hand was accepted as a pledge. When Ferdinand and Miranda strike their tender bargain, he says, "Here is my hand," and she replies, "And mine with my heart on it." Dunbar, Lord Treasurer of Scotland, congratulating Yelverton upon having made his peace at Court, said to him, "I will desire your friendship, as you do mine, and I will promise to do you my best; whereupon as pledge I give you my hand!" And so shaking Yelverton by the hand, he bade him farewell. Now-a-days a shake of the hand may mean very much, or nothing at all. The strong, hearty grip for grip of two old, long-parted friends, meeting unexpectedly is 'one thing; the nerveless loose, indifferent clasp of an acquaintanceship another.' Sydney Smith attempted to classify hand-shakes, dividing them into the high official, the sepulchral, the digitory, the shakus rusticus, and the retentive. The first was practised by the then Archbishop of York, "who kept his body erect, carried his hand aloft to a level with his chin, and gave it a rapid, short shake. Sir John Mackintosh affected the sepulchral, "laying his open hand flat on your palm, so coldly you were hardly aware of its contiguity." The digitory—in favor with the high clergy—was adopted by Brougham, who used to put forth his forefinger with, "How are you?" The shakus rusticus was having "your hand seized as in an iron grasp, betokening rude health, a warm heart, and a distance from the metropolis, but producing a sense of relief when your hand is released with the fingers unbroken.

Only Twenty Minutes.

I will tell you the greatest vexation of my life, said an Australian colonist to me one day. In the year 1840 I went up to B—, when gold was being found in large quantities. There was a great rush. I discovered a very promising spot, and went in all haste to secure the claim. On my way I met an old chum whom I had not seen for years. He was in great spirits, and insisted on my returning back to have refreshments and smoke a cigar just for old friendship's sake. Most reluctantly and with many misgivings I went with him. We had our refreshments and parted.

I went to secure the claim, and found myself twenty minutes too late. Disappointed and vexed, I looked out another spot, which, however, was not to my mind. The man who had secured the first claim made a handsome fortune from it in a short time. While he was turning out immense nuggets, gold almost in shovelfuls, I was breaking my tools, my health, and my heart amongst useless rubbish, till at length sick, despairing, and penniless, I gave it up and came away. It is now more than twenty years since; I have worked hard for a living; I am a poor man to this day, and shall end my days in hard work, a poor man. For a friendly chat and a cigar I lost the one opportunity of my life. That opportunity came and went in twenty minutes. When I am weary and hard pressed, the remembrance of that lost claim worries and maddens me. To go against one's own judgment and interests merely to please another—what a fool!

Reader, your one great opportunity for eternity may come and go in twenty minutes, your stake is greater than the gold-digger's. Unsearchable riches lost in a moment of crisis.

"Maun, Peter," said a Scotch quack doctor to his apprentice, "ye maun aye be awfu' cautious in pharmacy. Even I aince made a terrible mistake. I was attending Mrs. Kittleboy, who was sair fashed wi' tickdolaroo, an' I was called upon by John McFikeit, wha's croon was sae thin o' hair—as weel as sense—that he was ashamed o' it, especially as he was coortin' a strappin' young widow that had a fine public house; an' I mixed up bath potions at the same time, an' loosh sake, maun, I happened tae gie them ilkither's medicine; so puir John, rubbing Mrs. Kittleboy's preparation for her tickdolaroo on the tap o' his head, declares he's had a bee in his bonnet ever since; an' Mrs. Kittleboy, rubbin' her jaws wi' the ointment intended for John's ballpaw, in less than a fortnicht had a pair o' whiskers the envy o' a' the young men o' the village.

It has been said that evil manners communicate miraculous morals, or words to that effect, but more effective.

A more glorious victory cannot be gained ever another man than this, that when the injury began on his part, the kindness should begin on ours.

Men are often capable of greater things than they perform. They are sent into the world with bills of credit, and seldom draw to their full extent.

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At the Head St. Peter's Bay, the Store and Dwelling House recently occupied by John Larkins. Apply to A. A. MACDONALD. Ch'town, May 23—2w eod

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100 Cases SCOTCH WHISKEY,
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For Sale very Low.
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DR. MELVIN'S CAPSICUM POROUS PLASTERS are acknowledged by all who have used them to act quicker than any other plaster they ever before tried, and that one of these plasters will do more real service than a hundred of the ordinary kind. All other plasters are slow of action, and require to be worn continually to effect a cure; but with these it is entirely different: the instant one is applied the patient will feel its effect.

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Ch'town, March 23—sw pat s jour 2i

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Strayed, Ran Away, or Stolen!
THE ABOVE SUM WILL BE PAID BY
SEE SEE JONES,
(Inventor of the C. B. PUMP, and the first person who brought it and the Tubular Well to the Island, and the only person who can tell where water can be found), to any one who can prove who took away the water from wells bored by Miller, Roper, Mallet, McGaurin, Hamm and others, at the Chapel in Montague; at the Schoolhouse at High Banks; at Stubbles' Stables and at the Gas House, Charlottetown; and at Dr. McIntosh's, Murray Harbor.

As I do not intend to have the Public deceived, as in the past, by cheap opposition, I say to all, if you want a **GOOD WELL** and

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