

**SOCIAL MISTAKES.**

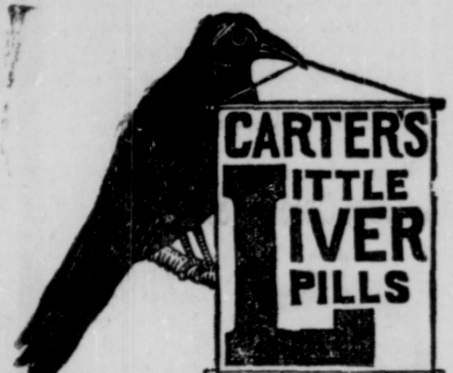
Perhaps the greatest of all social mistakes is to be continually talking about oneself. There is no word in all the vocabulary of conversation so tedious to others as that personal pronoun "I." Though one of the smallest words in use, there is none that takes up more room in the everyday world. "I" is a bore. It is better not to mention his name oftener than can be avoided. Another social folly is "gush." There is an insincere ring about it. True, there are people who gush from sheer good nature in wishing to give pleasure, yet they should remember that even amiable exaggeration is like a coarse sugar plum, agreeable at first, but leaving a doubtful taste in the mouth afterward.

On the other hand, there is a certain class of people in society who are equally foolish in going to the other extreme. They feign indifference about everybody and everything, seldom expressing either interest or admiration. They think it "bad form" to show any pleasure in life, and a sign of superiority to be incapable of enthusiasm. A social folly is to imagine that people are always looking at or thinking of you. Such ideas are often the offsprings of conceit. As a matter of fact, the people very often look at you without seeing or thinking of you. They have other things to think of. If we could only convince ourselves that we are not always the pivot of our friends' and acquaintances' thoughts, there would be fewer hurt feelings and imaginary grievances.—*Spokane Spokesman-Review.*

**Visitors From Space.**

Whatever be their origin, it would seem that these solid bodies (meteorites) are hurtling through space at velocities which may be anything between 10 and 40 miles a second. If they come near enough to this earth to be attracted by it, their course is changed, and presently they enter our atmosphere. The result is a sudden check to their speed, owing to the intense resistance and friction engendered by contact with the air particles.

What happens may be likened to the sudden application of the wooden brake block to the rapidly moving wheel of an express train. Heat is generated in exchange for motion, and the trail of sparks from the checked wheel is represented in the checked meteorite by a luminous trail. We commonly call it a shooting star, and if its mass be small it is possibly altogether dissipated in heat and gas, or it may ultimately find its way to our earth as dust. Such "meteoric dust" has been found on the eternal snow of mountains, where dust of the ordinary type would be impossible. If, on the other hand, the mass of matter be large, its surface only will be affected by the sudden heat generated, and it may fall to the ground entire or possibly explode and be scattered in fragments over a wide area.—*Chambers' Journal.*



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**FIELD GUNS IN WAR.**

The betterment of the modern field gun is fully equal to the development of other branches of military armament. It has been especially rapid within the last dozen years. The work of specialists and the results of extended tests have ended in the production of a weapon of great accuracy and of titanic force. The field gun of today is the favorite weapon of the military man, and he expects from it some very remarkable demonstrations when opportunity to use it occurs.

Napoleon is credited with the remark that Providence is always on the side of the heavy artillery, but the artillery which Napoleon knew was not worthy to be mentioned on the same day with the light, graceful and deadly arm with which the moderns are prepared to do slaughter. The first great step forward was taken when the breechloading action was invented. Well known scientific rules of boring and the improvement in projectiles and powders have done the rest. The field gun now in use by the powers is as accurate at its range as a rifle and has tremendous energy.

The United States has no better field guns than those with which the armies of Germany and France are armed, but they are every bit as good. Like our other ordnance, they are all made on this side of the water. The American manufacturer yields to no one in ability to make a perfect weapon. Indeed many of the chief improvements in field guns and in the larger sizes, sometimes called "siege" guns, are the products of American brains.

The field guns of the United States army are made at Watervliet, N. Y., just as the large guns for the navy and for coast defense are turned out at Washington. They have a caliber of a little more than three inches, are, of course, breechloading, are rather lengthy for their width and are lightly but strongly mounted. They use a pointed shell which explodes either on concussion or by time fuse, generally the former, and are fired with great rapidity.

Each gun of a battery is in command of a lieutenant, who, under the eye of his superior, sights it and directs its working. He has his elevation, depression and wind gauge formulæ at his fingers' ends, and with him good shooting is mainly a question of care. The powder used in these guns is of the smaller grained brown hexagonal kind, though the spherical is preferred for some calibers.

The recoil of this gun on level ground is 20 feet, with the wheels unlocked. With the wheels locked it recoils five feet, and is run forward and resighted very swiftly. Its point blank range is 2,200 yards. It can be made effective at a much greater distance, of course, but officers prefer that range for accurate shooting.

It fell to me some seven years ago to report the first field trial given the Watervliet guns. Three of them were sent to Fort Sam Houston at San Antonio, where Light Battery F, Third artillery, was stationed under command of Major James B. Burbank, a most capable officer, now attached to the staff of the governor of New York. Major Burbank was instructed to try them out thoroughly, and for this purpose selected an ideal range on Ganahl's ranch, 60 miles north of San Antonio.

The guns were planted in line and 20 feet apart on the side of a green hill and pointed across a shallow valley. On the opposite hill, 2,200 yards away, a tent fly was put up as a target. It was 15 by 9 feet in dimension and was stretched on two poles. At that distance it looked like nothing in the world so much as a man's pocket handkerchief. One shot was fired as a range finder, and that shot proved the range was found. Then the work began.

For half an hour these guns pitched shells through or under or over the target, according to the firing directions, with as much accuracy as a man would use a Winchester rifle at 100 yards. The work was done with the precision of a clock. There was the rush of the piece into its first position, the quick command to load, the rapid aim and discharge, the faint scream of the shell, the puff of smoke and dull report as it struck and the dust rose up in a pillar.

When it was ended, we rode across the valley and up the opposite slope to the spot where the tent fly had stood. Bits of it lay about here and there. One of the poles was bitten short off. For 50 yards below the other pole, for 30 yards on either side of it and for 100 yards above it the earth was not plowed—it was harrowed. An ant could not have lived on the ground.

It was not difficult to imagine what would have become of an opposing force. Men and horses would have been dead and all guns dismantled in five minutes after the firing began. There could have been no better illustration of the absolutely fatal character of these pieces. It was found that they did not become unmanageable through heat, that the breech mechanism displayed no sign of strain, that the recoil was not greater than was calculated and that accuracy was as perfect with the last shell as with the first. These findings were reported to the Washington authorities, and the manufacture of the guns went on. The regular army is now thoroughly supplied with them.

FOR SALE.—Sloop yacht Abegweit fast, sailor, newly painted and overhauled this spring.—A. W. Weeks, Charlottetown, 145 Gt. E. d. w. k. 4i.

**ESTEEMED EXCHANGES**

Farmers Sun: The Ontario Government in summoning the Legislature shows signs of panic for the first time in a quarter of a century. The proposed legislation seems to us to be directed solely with a view to Government's own preservation. It knows the advantage that the possession of office gives, and it is prepared to go almost any length in order to retain it. We believe Mr. Hardy will find that he has made a tactical error, and that his move will be accepted in the country as a confession of weakness and an admission that he does not rely on public support, but on a straining of legislative powers to hold office. To escape from his position he is playing a game as desperate as Cervera's attempt. Will he meet with Cervera's fate?

Calgary Herald (Ind): Israel Tarte has given another proof of his supreme power in the Cabinet. It is only a few months since the respectable Liberals of Quebec were crying out for Tarte's head. His influence was corrupt and his presence in the Ministry demoralizing. What did he do? Try to clear himself against their charges? Attack his enemies and attempt to down them? No; he got them all appointed to Government jobs. The tone of Canadian politics was pretty low when the Conservatives went out, but it is safe to say that the Liberals have done absolutely nothing to raise it. On the contrary, their tolerance of Tarte and his shady methods has tended to sink political morals deeper and deeper into a mire from which a modern Hercules will be required to redeem them.

St. John Sun: Perhaps no political party has the right to be proud, but if such weakness is allowable at all it should be permitted to the liberal conservative party after the Moncton convention. The number and character of the representatives present from nearly all the constituencies of the province; the heartiness and enthusiasm of the meetings; the manner in which the one difficult question was met and settled; the respect shown for the position of the dissenters from the general view on this one matter; the general feeling of mutual confidence, all go to show that the liberal conservatives of this province are a stronger and more united party than at any previous time in our history.

An inspection of the fortifications at the entrance of Santiago harbor discloses the fact that they were extremely weak, and that but for the mines in the channel a battle ship could have forced her way in without difficulty. There were less than 20 guns in all, few of them were of large calibre and only one of them had been dismantled by the fire of the American fleet. Some of them were wholly unprotected. The main use of the guns at Santiago would seem to have been to prevent the mines in the channel being removed by the boats of the American fleet.

HOW TO CLEANSE GLASSES.—To clean the glass of pictures dip a piece of chamois leather in alcohol, wring it nearly dry and wipe the glass thoroughly, yet lightly. Polish the glass thoroughly with a piece of dry chamois. Gilded frames may also be cleaned with alcohol. If oil paintings need cleaning thoroughly, damp a soft cloth in warm water in which castile soap has been dissolved. Dry the painting carefully and then varnish it lightly with some thin, clean, French "retouching" varnish. It is well to consult an artist with regard to the best varnish and usually safer to intrust this last business to a professional cleaner.—*London Mail.*

CAKES FOR A CHURCH PARTY.—A good story is related in the Church Times of a baker who was anxious to do the proper thing for a clerical tea party for which he was catering. "The rural dean's wife at Whittlebury invited the clergy to tea, and ordered cakes from the local confectioner. These arrived in due time beautifully iced, and each decorated with the monogram 'H S' in icing! The confectioner evidently thought he was doing the correct thing for a clerical party, but the cakes were carefully cut in pieces before being sent to the table."

**MARRIED.**  
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**GRASS LINEN**  
We are now selling a superb line of Grass Linens in Silk Checks, also stripes at the following low prices 18c, 16½c, 15c, 13½c, 12½c, 9½c and 7½c per yard. These prices are fully 25 per cent below the regular price.

**CASHMEREETTES**  
Just received in fancy checks with black ground. They are selling at the very low price of 14 cents per yard.

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That's the way with our "Ladies Blucher Shoes," fine Dongola, plain toe.

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"We advertise what we have. We sell what we advertise."

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But bad spice is unobtainable. This is a truism that no competent housekeeper should forget. Half the trouble of cooking is past if you get the right brand of Spice, and while there are many that are fairly good, it is always safest to take one which is invariably uniform. That one is

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Use KLONDIKE BAR the great Laundry and scouring soap. Marvel of cheapness unsurpassed in excellence.

Use ROYAL OAK in the Laundry. Happy homes, easy quick work, snow white clothes.

Use JUMBLE for the toilet and light Laundry. Makes child's play of washday.

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Van Camps Tomato Catsup  
Van Camp's Tomato Soup  
Van Camp's Macaroni and Cheese  
Cairn's assorted jams in 1 lb pots  
Baked beans in Tomato Sauce (Ehicur Brand)  
English plum pudding in 2 lb tins.  
American Ox Tongue in 2 and 2½ lb tins.  
Dried Beef in 1 lb tins.  
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Connection at Moncton with train for Canada and at St. John with Steamers of International Line and Railways for United States and Canada.  
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