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Title: Crankisms

Author: Lisle de Vaux Matthewman

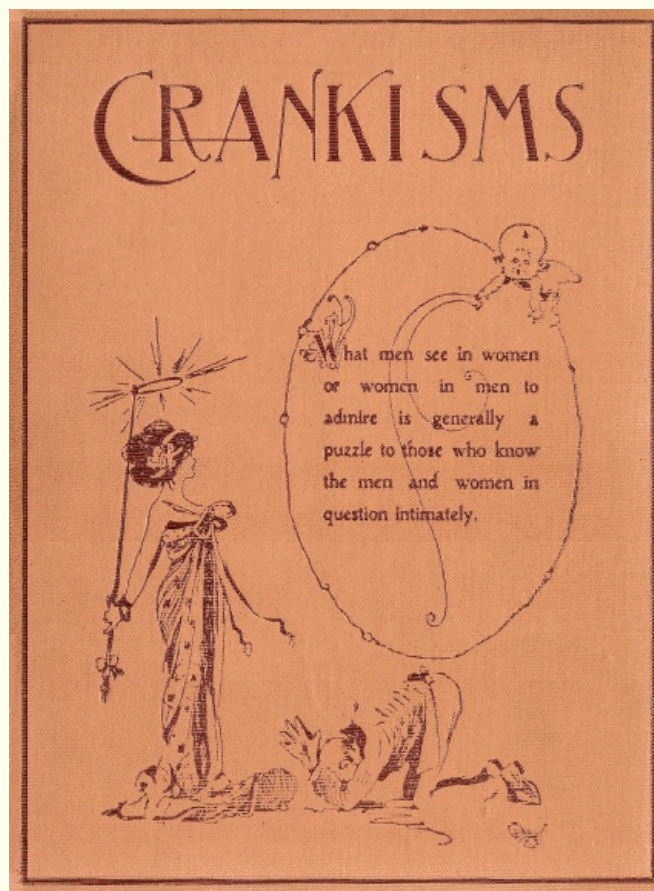
Illustrator: Clare Victor Dwiggin

Release date: December 5, 2006 [eBook #20024]

Language: English

Credits: Produced by Louise Hope, Mark C. Orton, Fox in the Stars
and the Online Distributed Proofreading Team at
<http://www.pgdp.net>

*** START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK CRANKISMS ***



Crankisms



By
Lisle
de
Vaux

Pictured
by
Gare
Victor

Matthewman ☆ Dwiggin

★ M C M I ★

HENRY T. COATES & CO.

PHILADELPHIA

TITLE PAGE TEXT

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IF I may be permitted to offer a suggestion, the Crankisms should be read in the spirit in which sermons are listened to—with the object of discovering whom they hit. This will furnish amusement, for what is more entertaining than trying the cap on others?

The settings speak for themselves; but the author desires to express his indebtedness to the artist for having infused life into and lent grace to dead bones of words, and for having, in many cases, given to those words a deeper and more subtle meaning than they themselves could be made to express.

L. DE V. M.

MAY, 1901.

THE CRANKISMS:

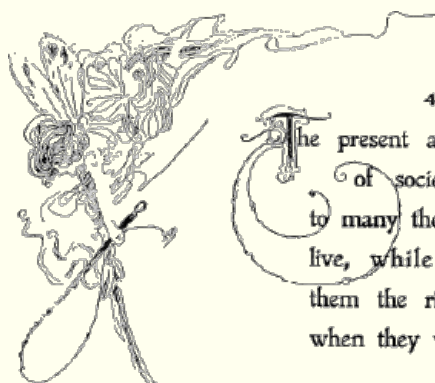
text with links

1
The kisses of an enemy
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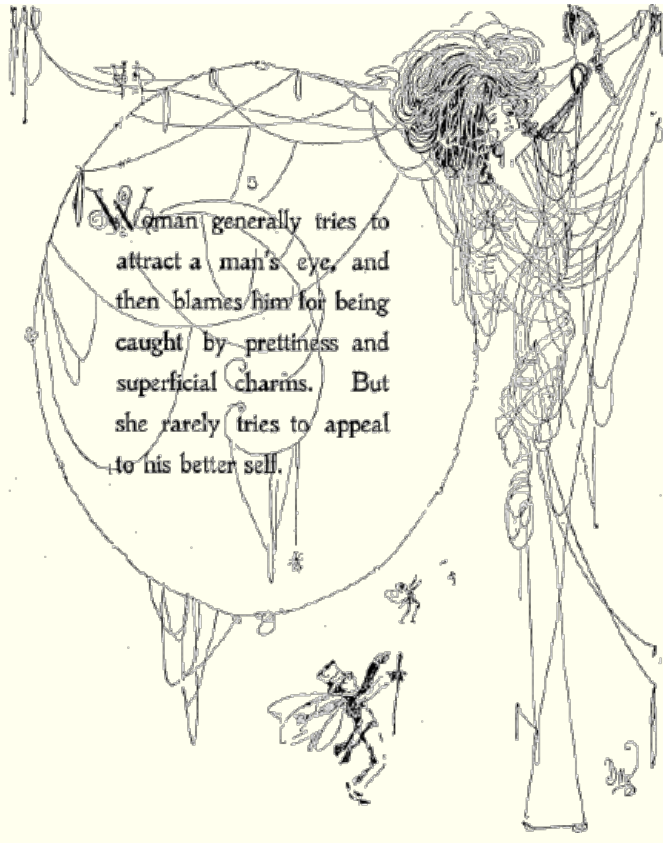
2
The best and
the worst in man respond
only to woman's touch—
unfortunately for man.

Men reason; women do not. Woman has no logic, and judging from the use it is to man, is better off without it.

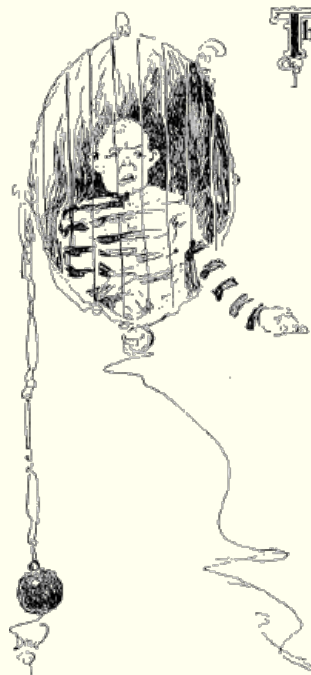


The present arrangement of society refuses to many the means to live, while forbidding them the right to die when they wish.

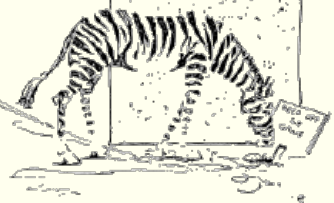




Woman generally tries to attract a man's eye, and then blames him for being caught by prettiness and superficial charms. But she rarely tries to appeal to his better self.



The man who is pockmarked has most to say against freckles.

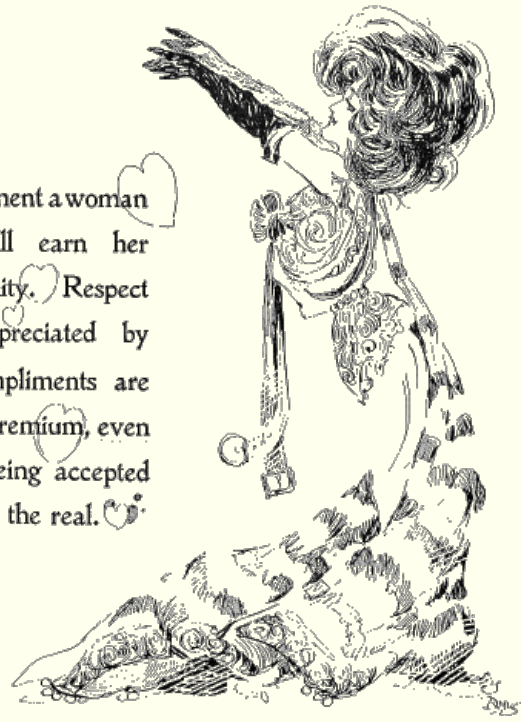


7
Charity covers a multitude of sins
which are
committed in her name.



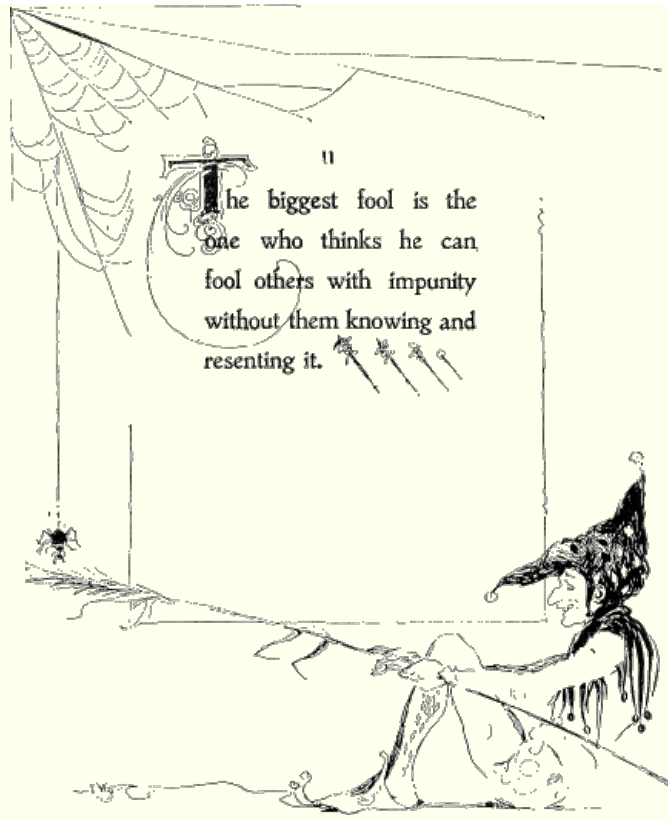


9
Never compliment a woman
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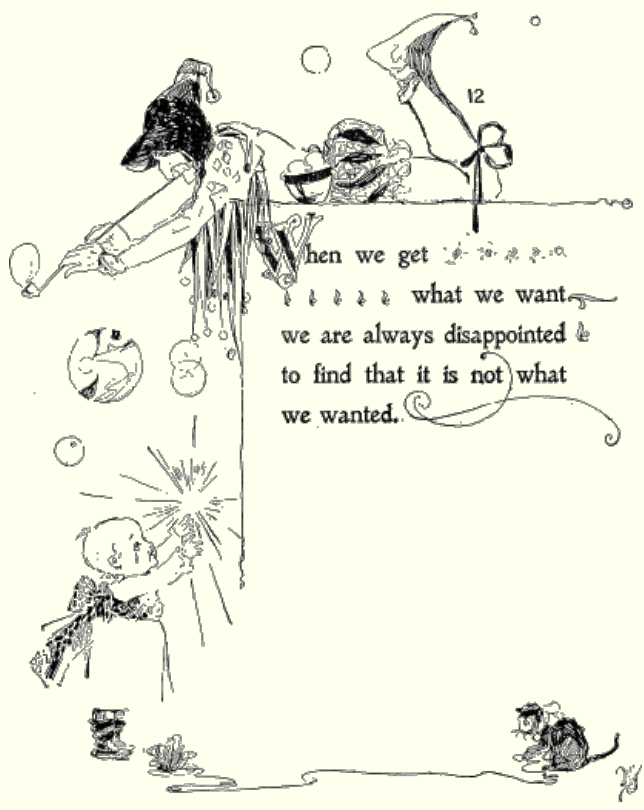
10
When we grow old we
walk unfeelingly over that
which we, in our youth,
madly chased.





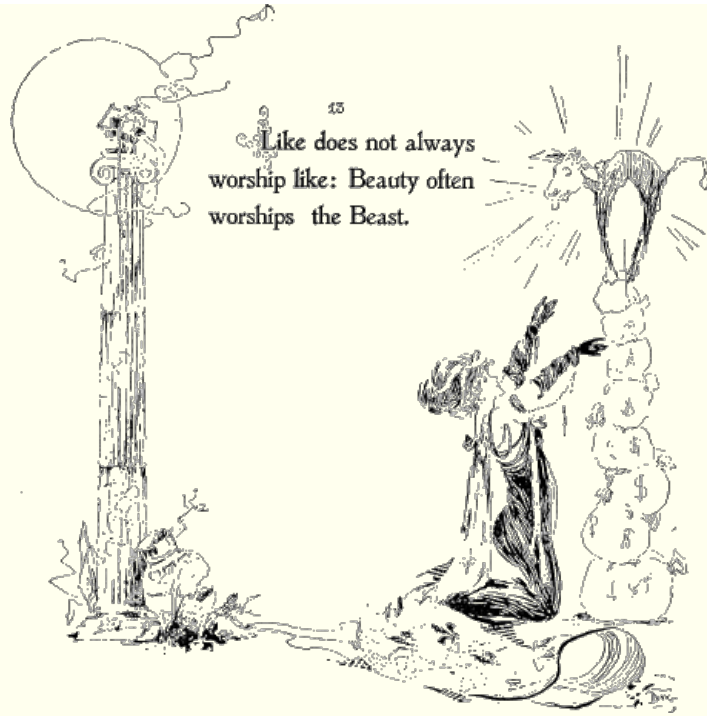
11

The biggest fool is the one who thinks he can fool others with impunity without them knowing and resenting it.



12

When we get what we want we are always disappointed to find that it is not what we wanted.

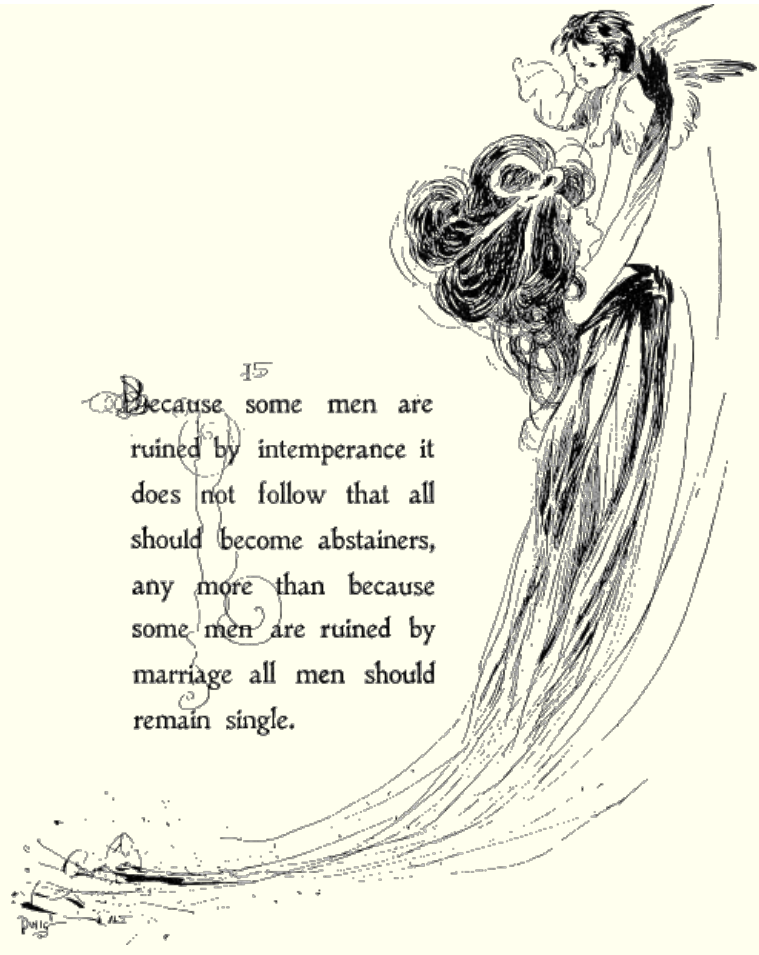


Like does not always
worship like: Beauty often
worships the Beast.

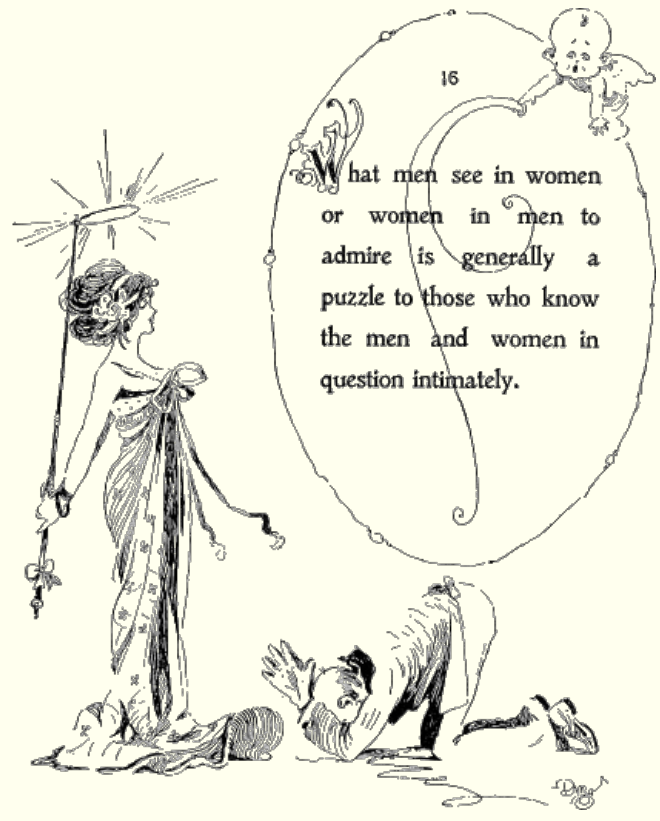


We were all in the front
row when modesty was
served out—at least we
think so.





15
Because some men are ruined by intemperance it does not follow that all should become abstainers, any more than because some men are ruined by marriage all men should remain single.

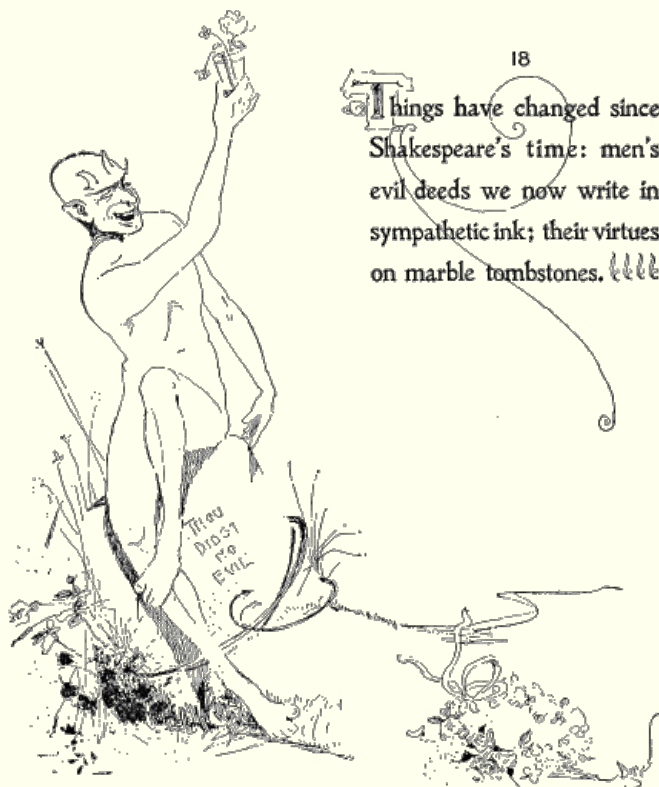


16
What men see in women or women in men to admire is generally a puzzle to those who know the men and women in question intimately.

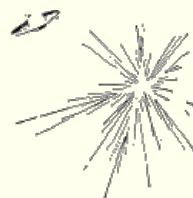
The only compliment which a woman really dislikes is that which is paid to another.



Things have changed since Shakespeare's time: men's evil deeds we now write in sympathetic ink; their virtues on marble tombstones.



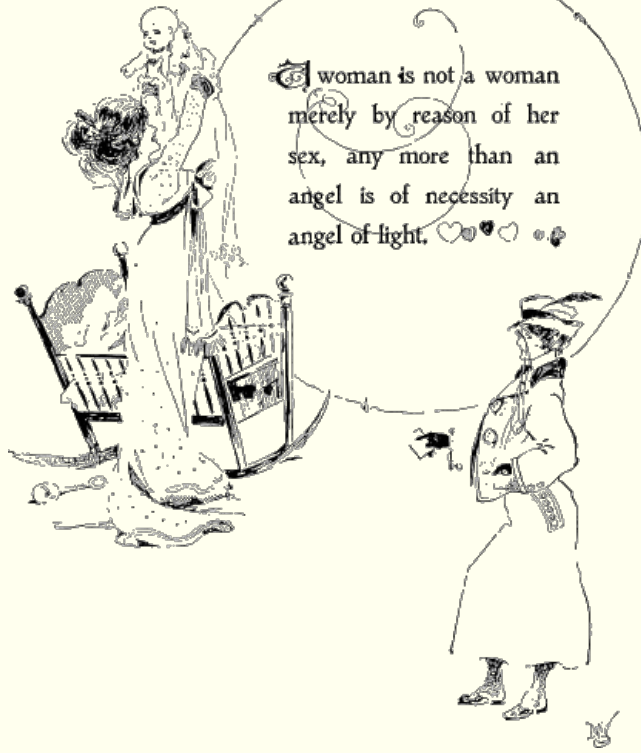
Our own weaknesses we regard as misfortunes from which we cannot escape; the weaknesses of others we consider crimes.



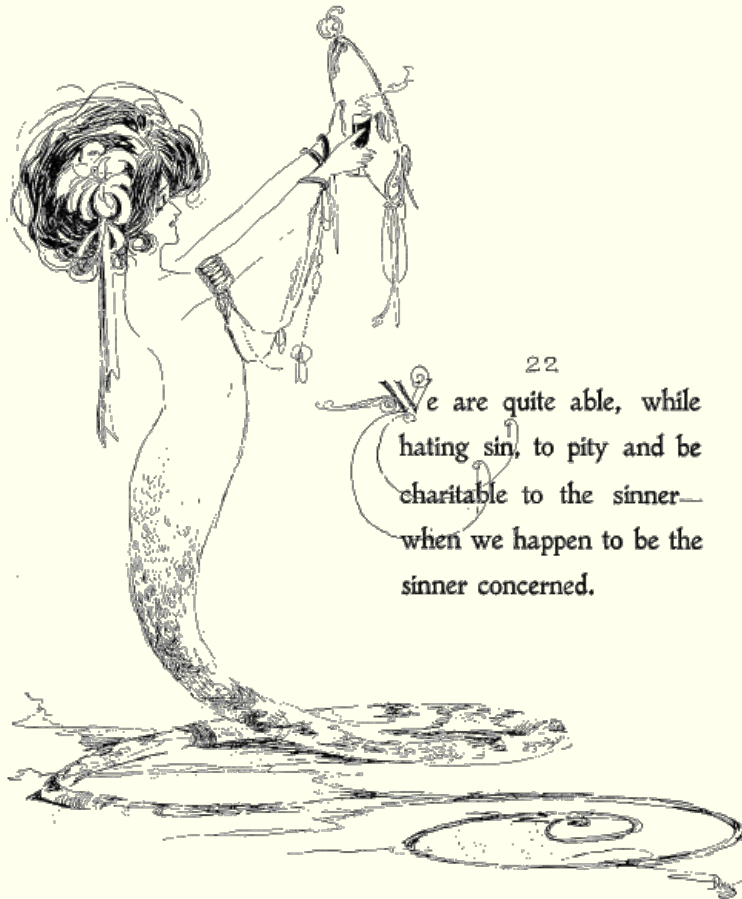
No matter how well we do, we are sure to be anxious to impress upon others that what we have achieved is trifling compared with that of which we are capable.

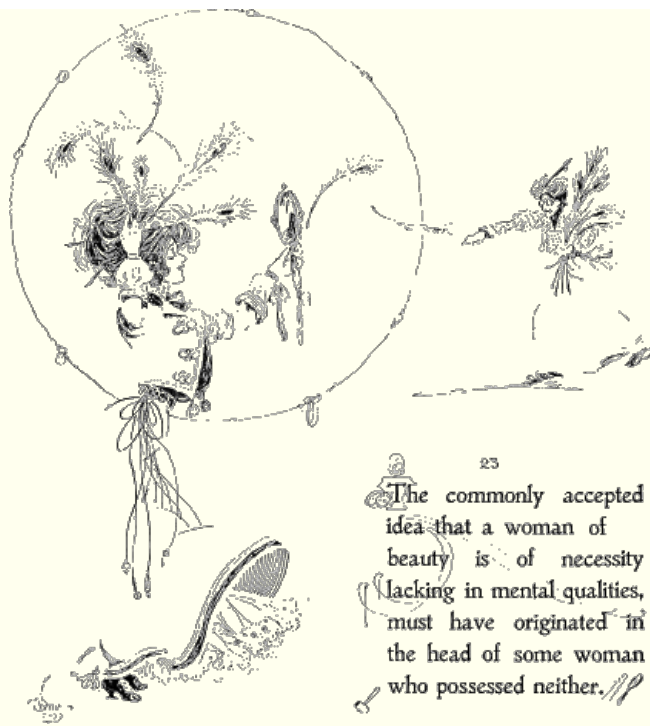


A woman is not a woman
merely by reason of her
sex, any more than an
angel is of necessity an
angel of light. ♡♡♡ ♣



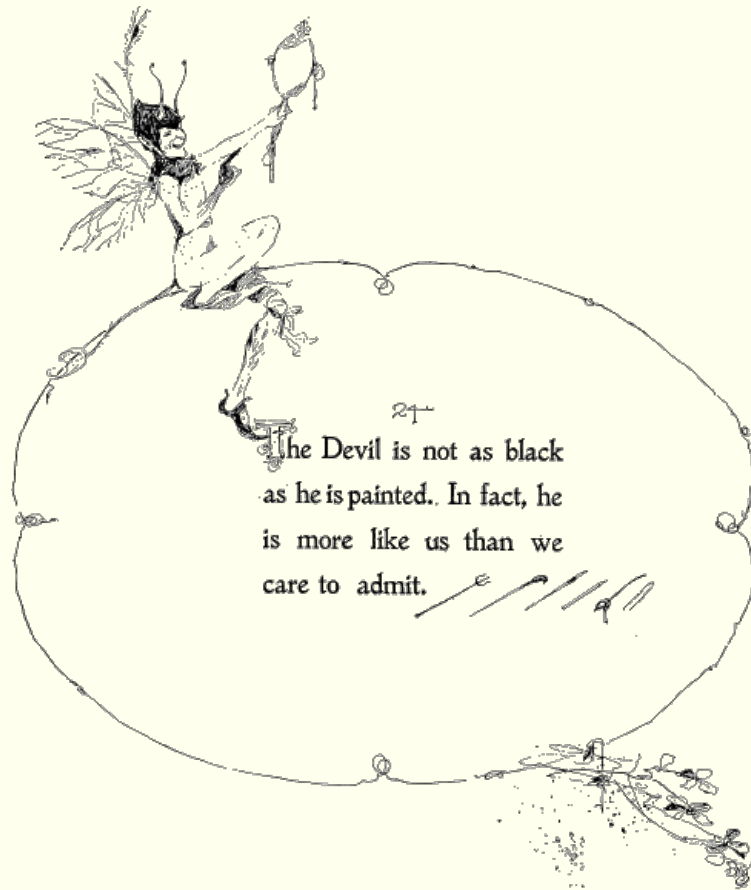
We are quite able, while
hating sin, to pity and be
charitable to the sinner—
when we happen to be the
sinner concerned.





23

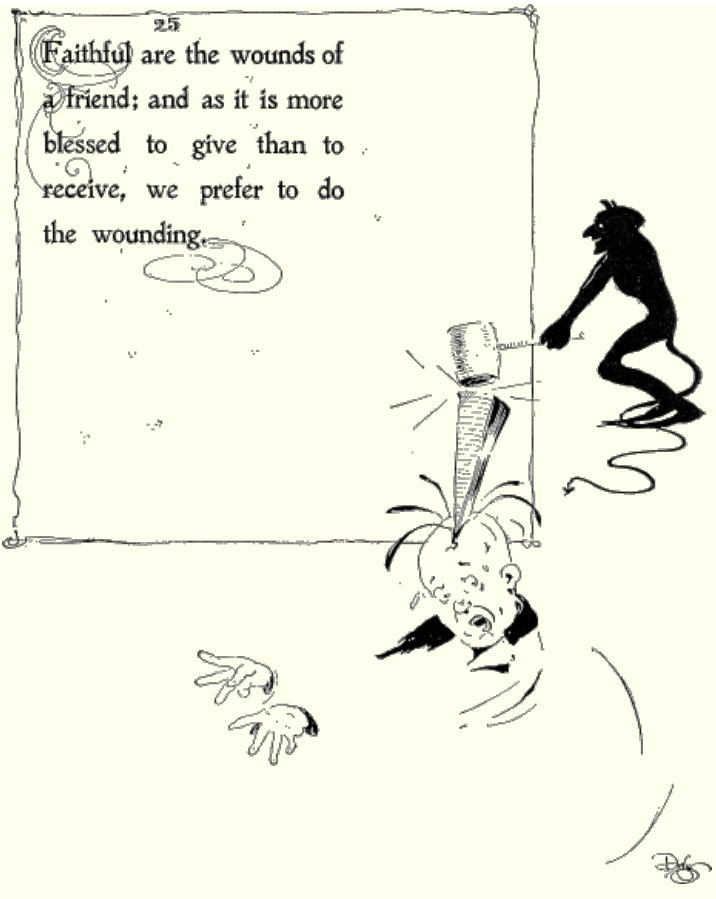
The commonly accepted idea that a woman of beauty is of necessity lacking in mental qualities, must have originated in the head of some woman who possessed neither. //



24

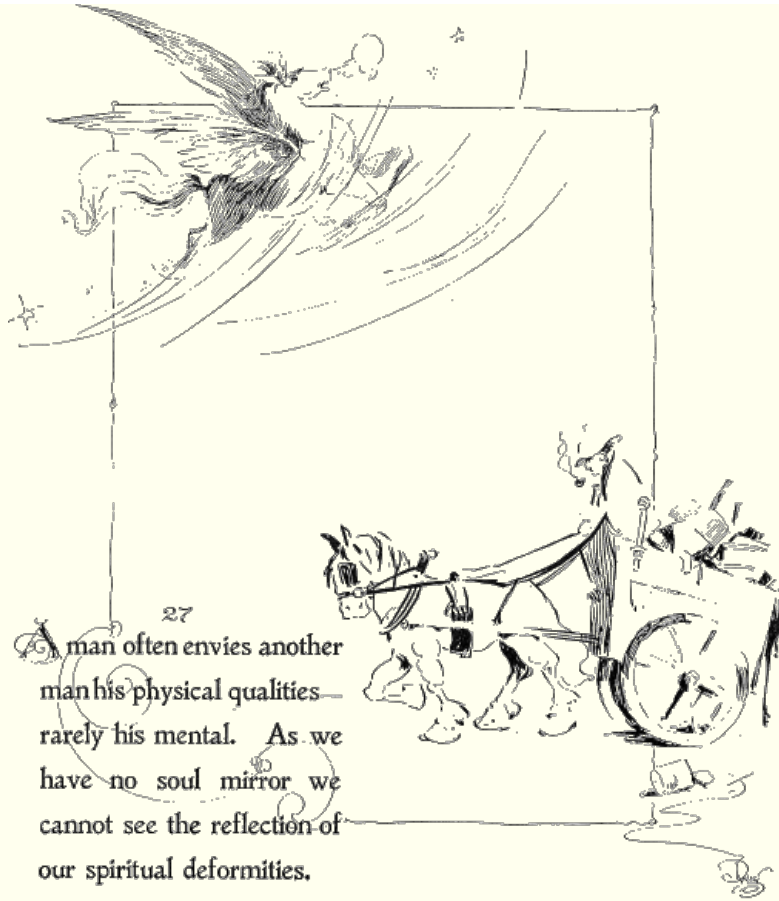
The Devil is not as black as he is painted. In fact, he is more like us than we care to admit. //

Faithful are the wounds of a friend; and as it is more blessed to give than to receive, we prefer to do the wounding.



The naked truth and a naked lie
Are shocking alike to society.





27

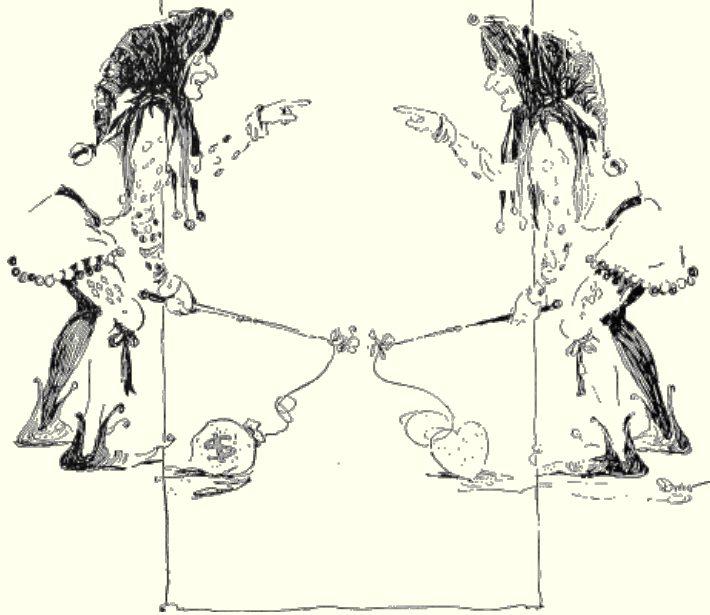
A man often envies another man his physical qualities—rarely his mental. As we have no soul mirror we cannot see the reflection of our spiritual deformities.

28

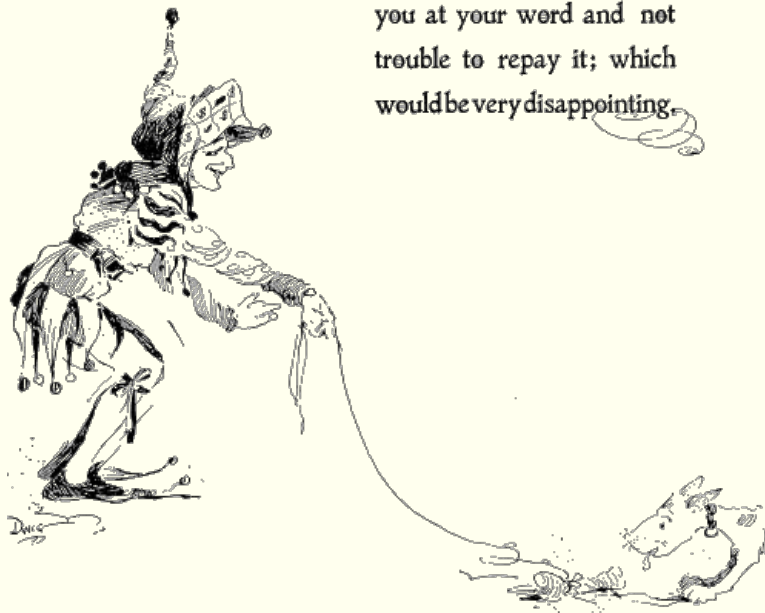
It is easy to have conscientious scruples when they are profitable.



The man who marries for money is a fool, but rarely as big a fool as he who marries for love.



When you have done a man a favor do not insist too earnestly that it is a mere trifle, or he may take you at your word and not trouble to repay it; which would be very disappointing.



The gentle art of making enemies is the one natural accomplishment which is common to all sorts and conditions of men and women.



What we think of ourselves combined with what others think of us is a very fair estimate.

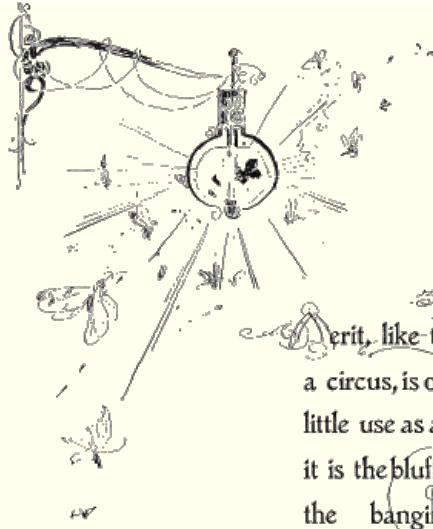




33
If a girl cannot make up
her mind between two men
it is because she has no
mind worth making up.
Besides, any man who will
knowingly be one of two
is not worth the trouble of
thinking about.



34
If we devoted as much
attention to our own affairs
as we freely give to those
of others, we and others
would be gainers.



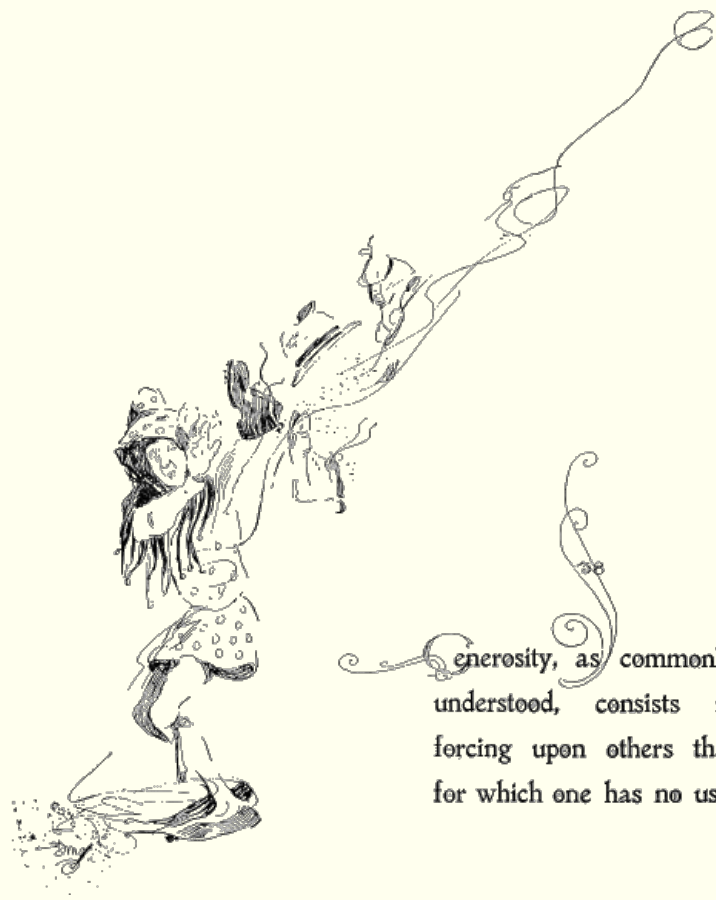
35
Merit, like the show inside
a circus, is of comparatively
little use as a drawing card;
it is the bluff and buncombe
the banging drum and
megaphone of the barker
which is the successful
magnet.



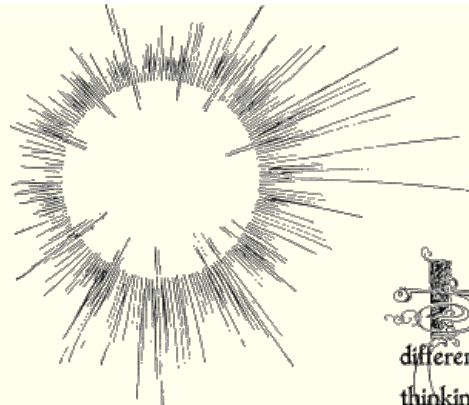
36
We always know
what we should do under
certain circumstances, but
unfortunately we never
find circumstances arranged
so as to suit what we do.



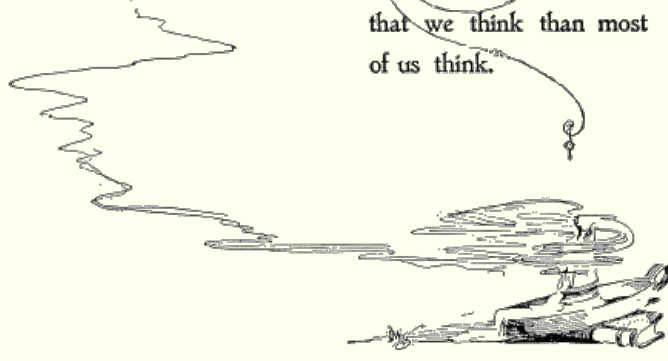
An oversensitive conscience
is simply the evidence of
spiritual dyspepsia. The
man who has it is no better
than his fellows.



Generosity, as commonly
understood, consists in
forcing upon others that
for which one has no use.



There is a greater difference between really thinking and only thinking that we think than most of us think.



We rashly demand that the devil shall have his due, forgetting that if that gentleman gets all that is coming to him it will go badly with some of us.



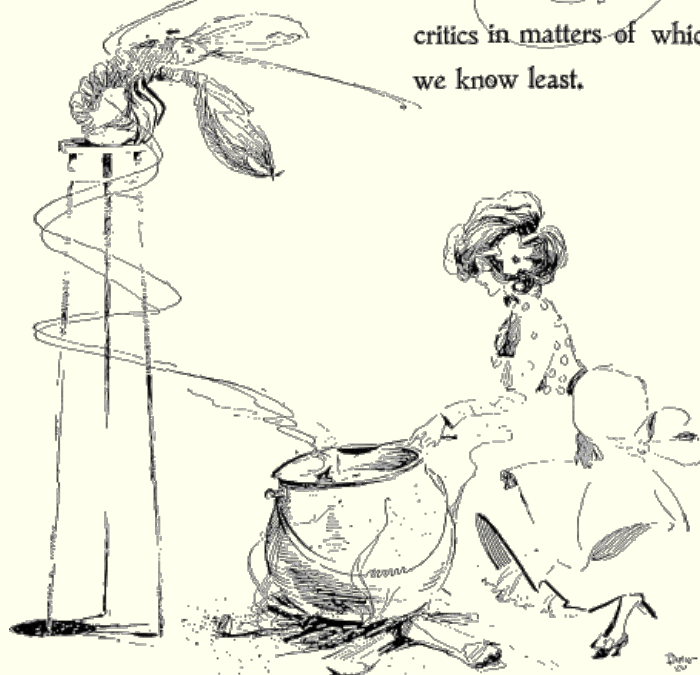
If women knew themselves
as well as they know men,
and if men knew women
as well as they know
themselves, things would
be very much as they are.



Before he knows a woman
a man often thinks her an
angel; when he knows her
— he knows—er—better.



A critic is one who knows perfectly well how a thing should be done, but is unable to do it. Therefore we are all the keenest critics in matters of which we know least.

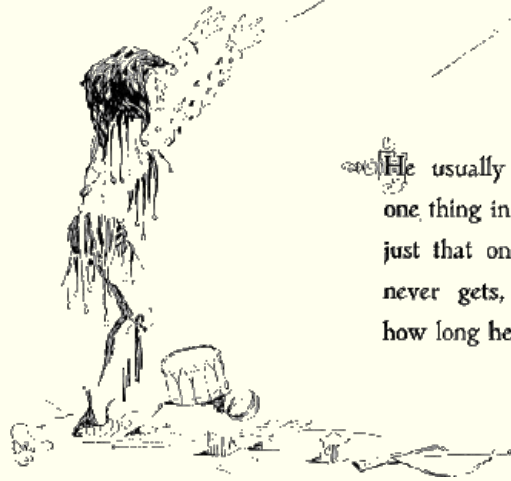


From all enemies and most friends, good Lord, deliver us!



everything comes to the man
who waits

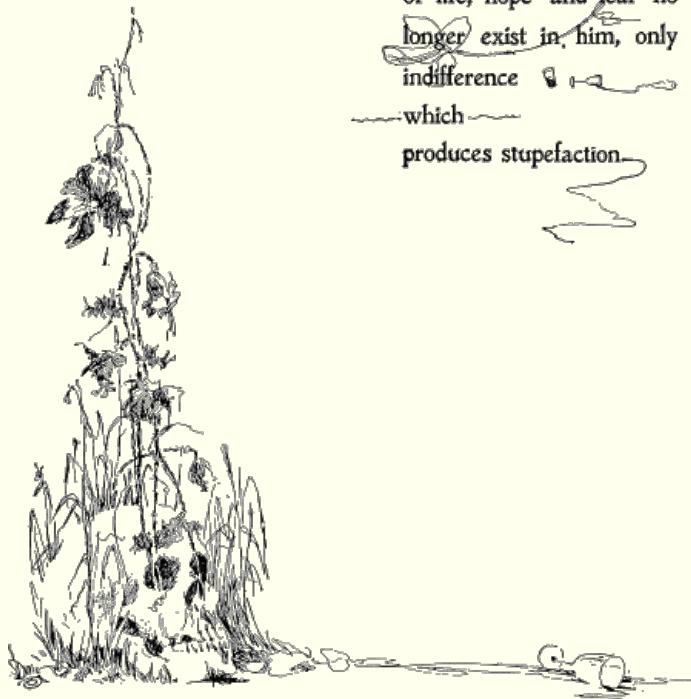
but that is no inducement to wait
for no man wants everything.

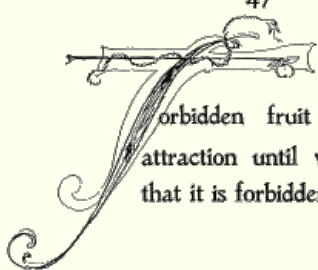


He usually wants
one thing in particular
just that one which he
never gets, no matter
how long he waits.

When a man has drained
the dregs of the bitterness
of life, hope and fear no
longer exist in him, only
indifference

which
produces stupefaction.





Forbidden fruit has no attraction until we know that it is forbidden.



A man can be judged from the theatres he frequents and the ladies who accompany him there.



Criticism grows faint in the presence of successful achievement.



A man may confess that his judgment was at fault, — but

never that his intentions were other than strictly honorable.

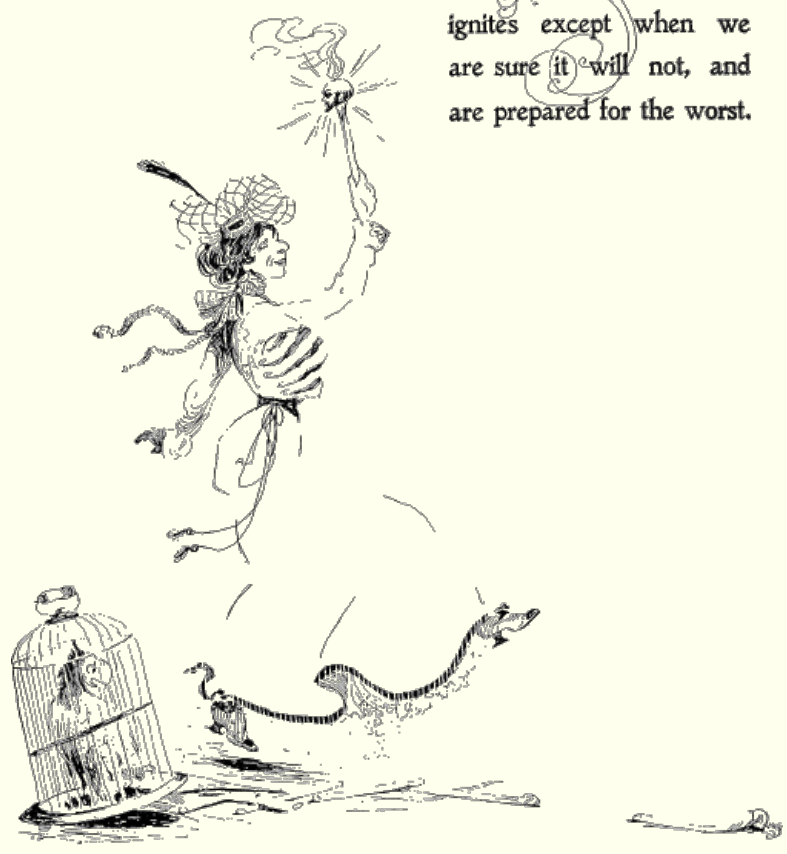




51
never that his intentions
were other than strictly
honorable.!!!!!!!

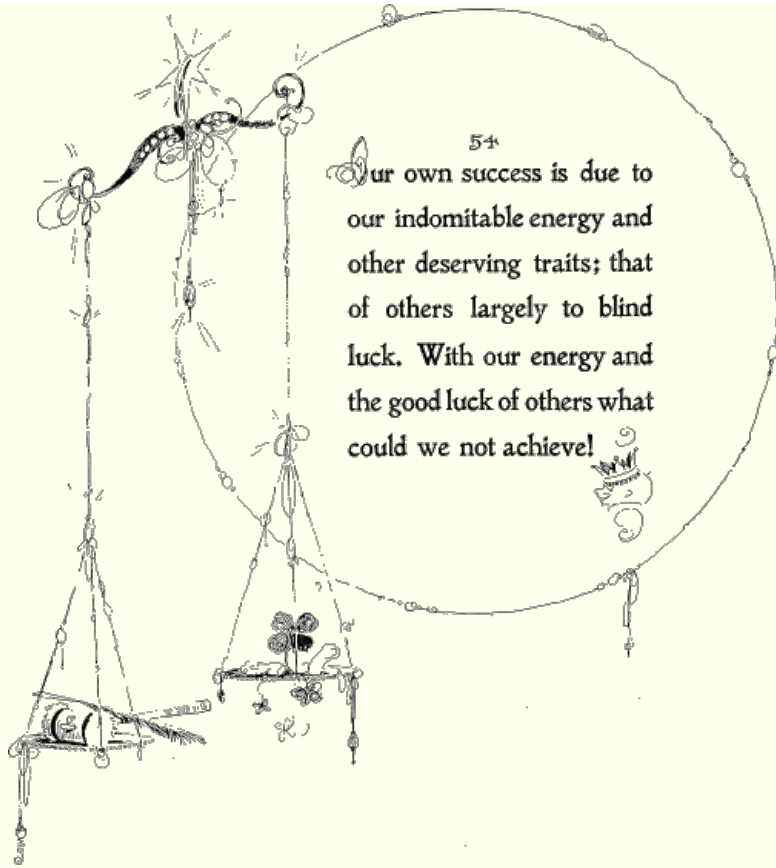


52
Our last match never ignites except when we are sure it will not, and are prepared for the worst.

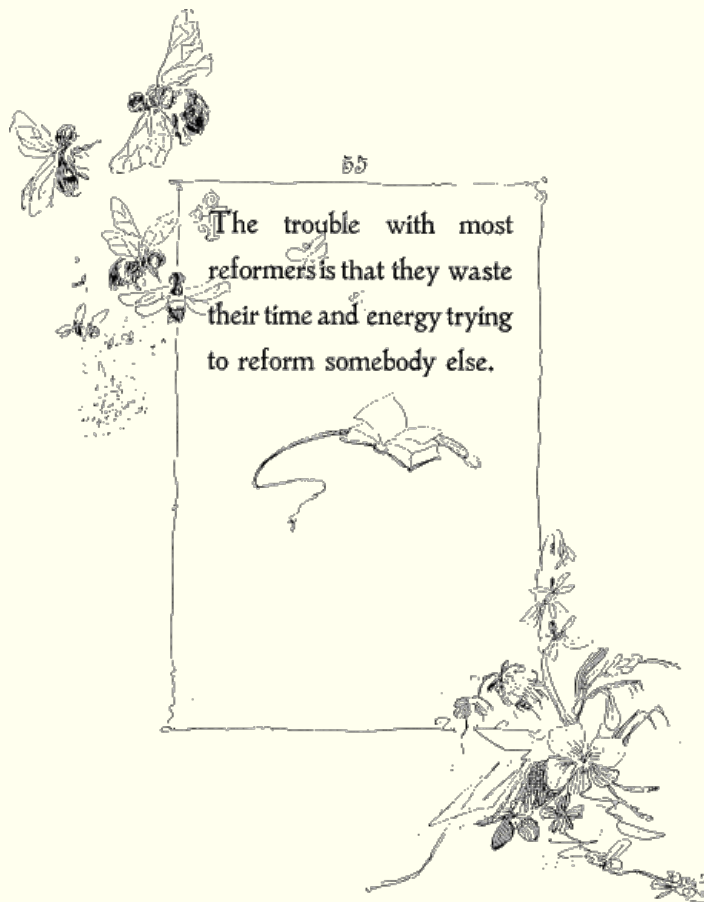


56
It is impossible to serve two masters, and few of us try. We are satisfied to praise God from whom all blessings flow while we cash the checks of Mammon.





54
Our own success is due to our indomitable energy and other deserving traits; that of others largely to blind luck. With our energy and the good luck of others what could we not achieve!



55
The trouble with most reformers is that they waste their time and energy trying to reform somebody else.

56
We are convinced in our own minds that every man deserves what he gets; but, judging from ourselves, not every one gets what he deserves.

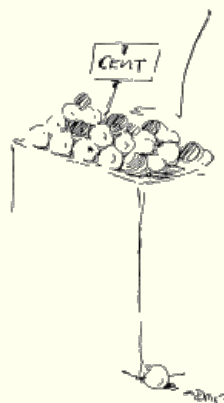


57
If we saw ourselves as others see us we should not believe our own eyes; but we should have a still lower opinion of the rest of the world than we now have.

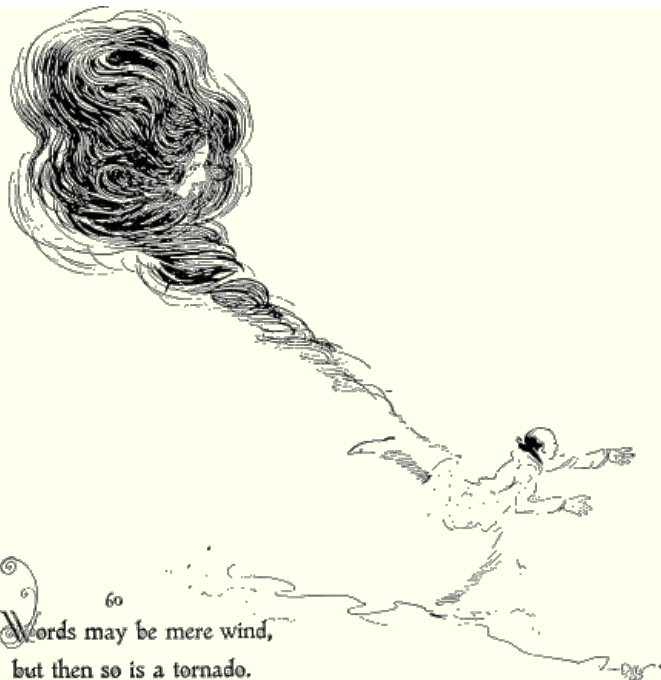




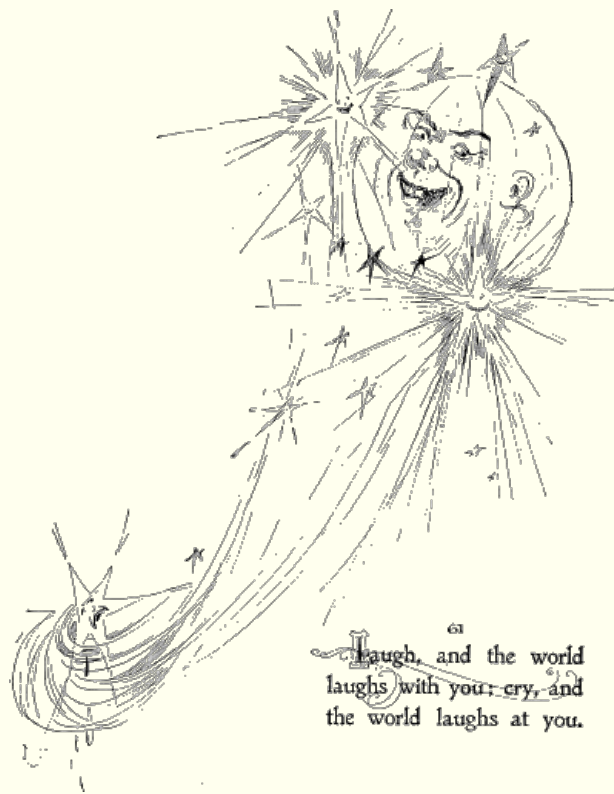
When we care we usually
don't dare; when we dare
we don't often care.



What sounds so sweet as
the human voice—to the
one who is doing the
talking!



60
Words may be mere wind,
but then so is a tornado.



61
Laugh, and the world
laughs with you; cry, and
the world laughs at you.



62

A proverbial expression is often a crystallized lie which we should like to believe.



63

Because everything is for the best it does not follow that it is for our best.

It is easier to moralize
than to be moral.

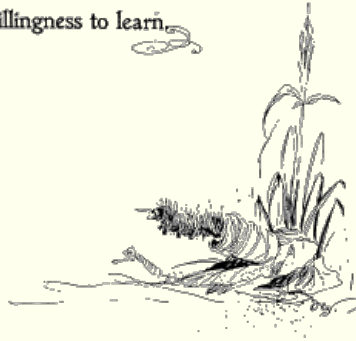


The difference between
an actress on the stage
and a woman not on the
stage is a matter of here
and there.



66

Ignorance is not so surprising, nor such a mark of inferiority, as unwillingness to learn.



67

He who grows indignant when his veracity is questioned generally has good and sufficient reason therefor.



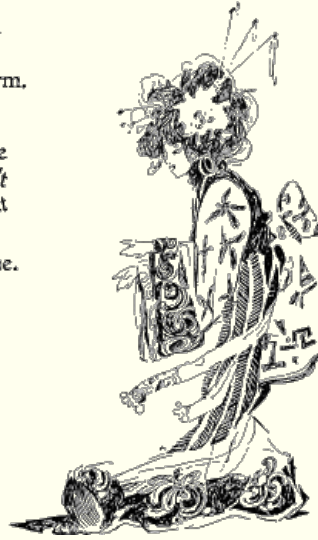
68
Our joys are mainly those
of prospect and retrospect.

69
It is not to be expected
that the average man
should know what a real
woman is like—he so
rarely sees one.

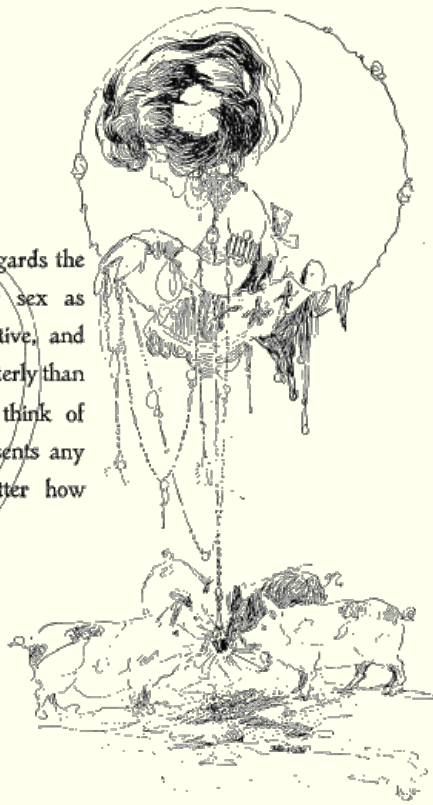


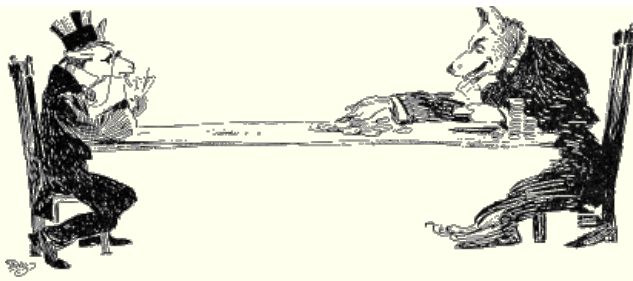


The Chinese
promise
and
never
intend
to
perform;
we
promise
and
do
intend
to
perform.
The
result
is
about
the
same.



71
Woman regards the
criticizing of her sex as
her own prerogative, and
criticizes more bitterly than
any man would think of
doing; but she resents any
criticism, no matter how
just, from man.





72

“Lambs, it is true, gambol,
but in due time they all
get fleeced.”

73

What we need is some
philosopher to tell us how
to be happy when we
have every reason for
being unhappy.





74
The most striking
trait of the average man
is unwillingness to be
convinced—that we are
right and he is wrong.

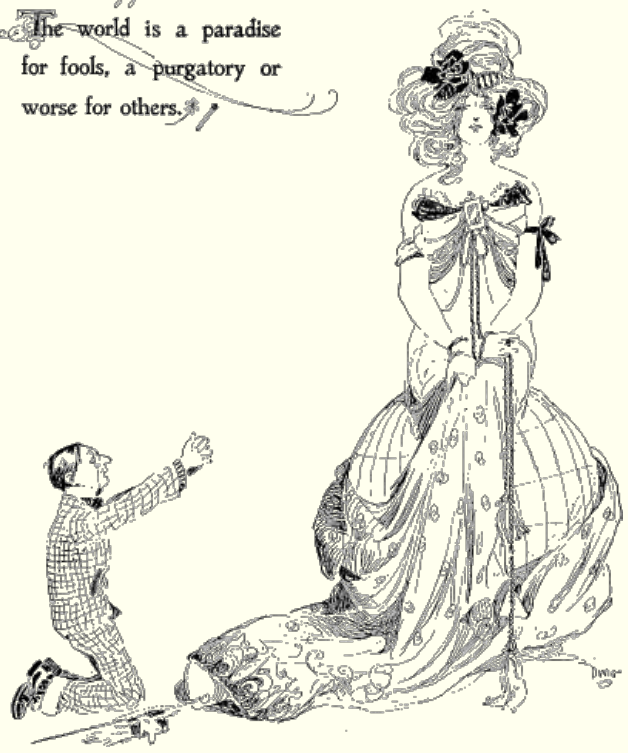


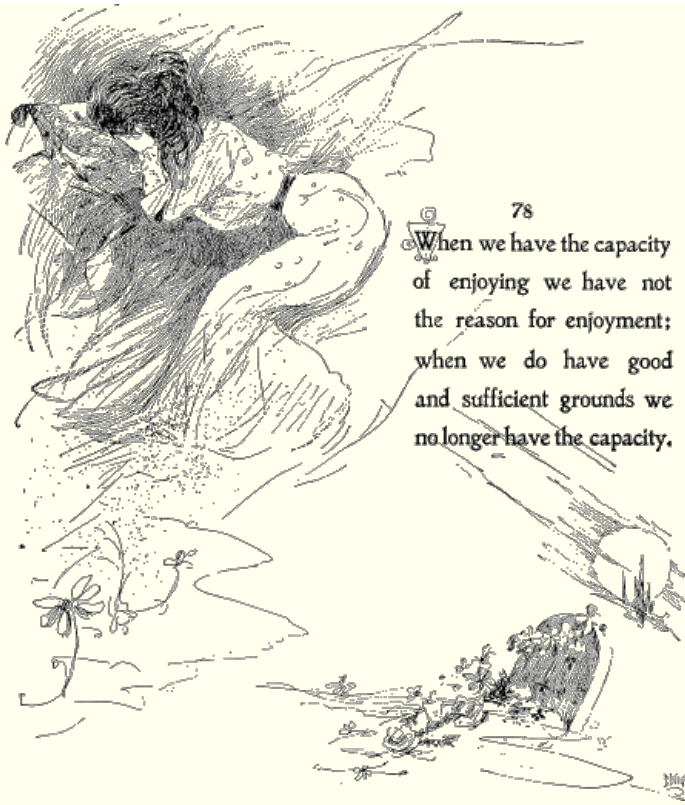
75
If man were so constituted
that he could pat himself
on the back gracefully, or
kick himself effectively, he
would spend most of his
spare time doing one or
the other.



76
Most of us live as if we
expected to be judged from
our epitaph rather than
from our conduct.

77
The world is a paradise
for fools, a purgatory or
worse for others.





78

When we have the capacity
of enjoying we have not
the reason for enjoyment;
when we do have good
and sufficient grounds we
no longer have the capacity.



79

To be happy, give; to be
successful, take; to be happy
and successful, give and
take.





80
What a woman admires in
a man depends on whether
she is married or single.



81
Confidence given is usually
confidence misplaced.



82

Women admire the gilded youth because he is a golden calf.

83

Even those who do not repeat scandal are generally willing to listen to it. Talk of the virtues of another, and, as a rule, your hearers will get bored; only hint that you could a tale unfold and you will secure perfect attention.





We forget that once upon a time we were little children; but the unpleasant fact that we are big children is being constantly forced upon us, together with the moral certainty that we shall never be anything else.



A man considers his little weaknesses amiable traits; a woman—a woman will not admit that she has a weakness.





86

God's call, through the still
small voice, to preach, is
much more irresistible
when megaphoned by a
wealthy church. † # 00

87

Many who sing loud praises
to God, pay heavy tribute
to the devil.



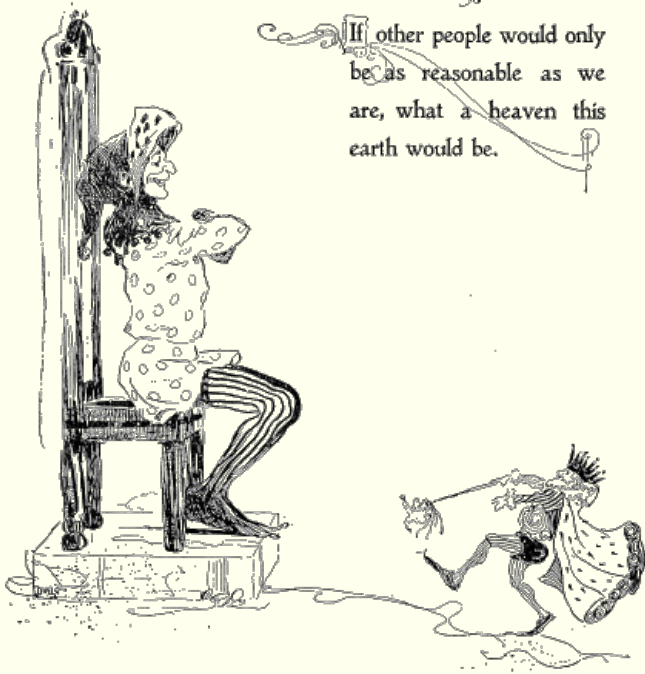
If the world is, as is so often whined, growing worse, it is partly because of our presence in it.



89

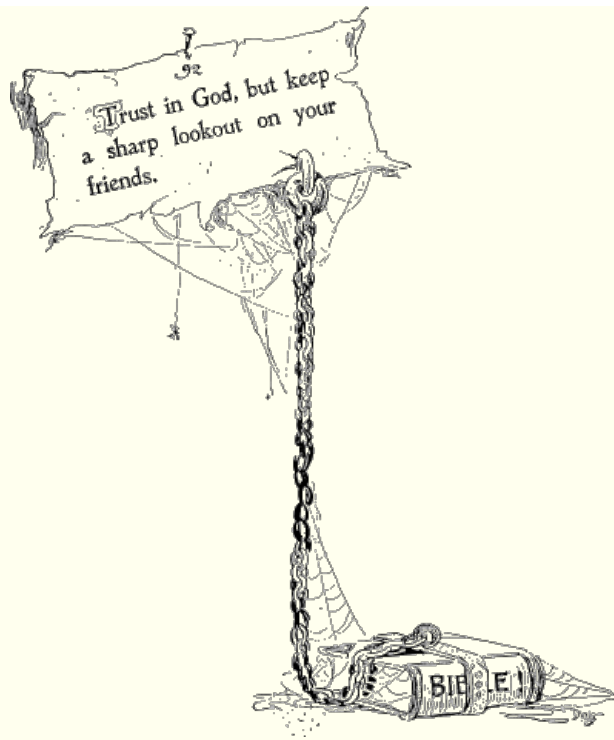
The counsel of a good book is far superior to that of a man—who says one thing and does another.

If other people would only be as reasonable as we are, what a heaven this earth would be.



The world has no sympathy for the gambler who loses.





93
Tell the truth and you
will shame the devil; you
will also surprise him very
often.

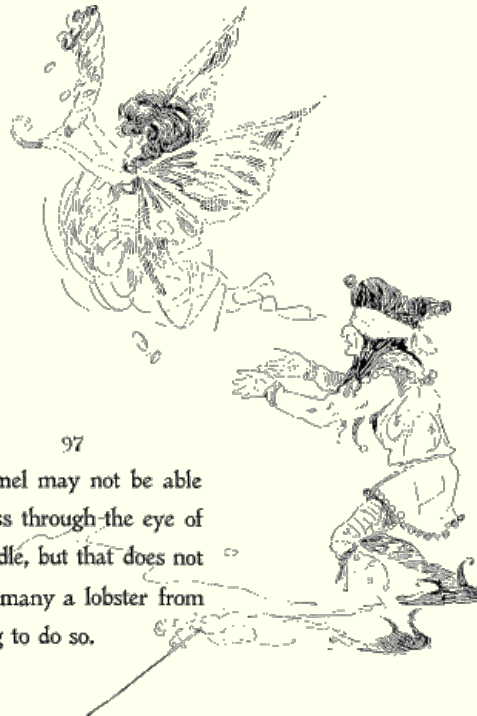
The knowledge that virtue is its own reward is what deters many from well doing.



It requires no particular skill to win the game when Fortune has dealt you all the trumps.

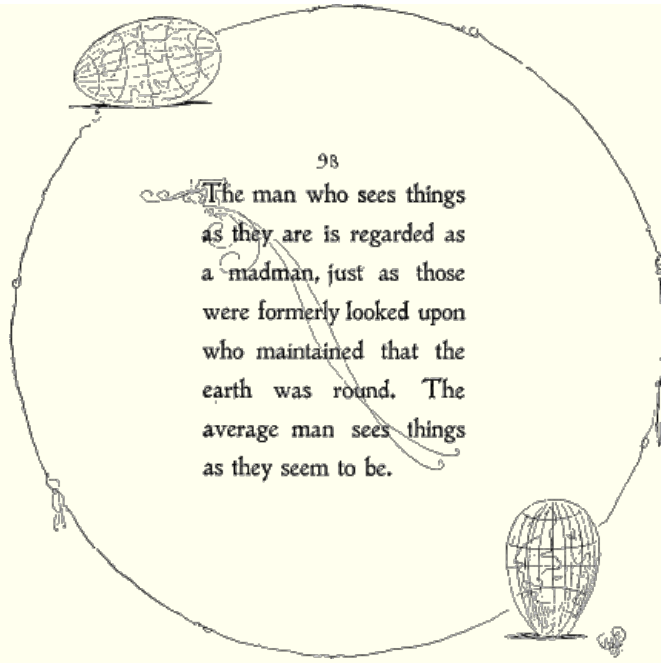


We give much more
 thought to what is due to
 us than to what is due
 from us.



97
 A camel may not be able
 to pass through the eye of
 a needle, but that does not
 deter many a lobster from
 trying to do so.

The man who sees things
as they are is regarded as
a madman, just as those
were formerly looked upon
who maintained that the
earth was round. The
average man sees things
as they seem to be.



We are all convinced
of the righteousness and
reasonableness of majority
rule—when we happen to
belong to the majority.



The greater his trouble,
the more a man hugs it to
his heart.

TITLE PAGE:

Crankisms

BY Lisle de Vaux Matthewman

Pictured

BY Clare Victor Diggins

* MCM I *

HENRY T. COATES & CO.

PHILADELPHIA

THE CRANKISMS

Some illustrations have been lightly edited
where they overlapped with text or decoration.

- | | | |
|----|---|-------------------------------|
| TP | <i>Title Page</i> | illustration |
| 1 | The kisses of an enemy are deceitful, but not as deceitful as the advice of the friend who is always counseling you for your own good. | illustration |
| 2 | The best and the worst in man respond only to woman's touch—unfortunately for man. | illustration |
| 3 | Men reason; women do not. Woman has no logic, and judging from the use it is to man, is better off without it. | illustration |
| 4 | The present arrangement of society refuses to many the means to live, while forbidding them the right to die when they wish. | illustration |
| 5 | Woman generally tries to attract a man's eye, and then blames him for being caught by prettiness and superficial charms. But she rarely tries to appeal to his better self. | illustration |
| 6 | The man who is pockmarked has most to say against freckles. | left
lower right |
| 7 | Charity covers a multitude of sins which are committed in her name. | illustration |
| 8 | Life is full of golden opportunities for doing what we do not want to do. | lower left
upper right |
| 9 | Never compliment a woman and you will earn her undying enmity. Respect is rarely appreciated by her; but compliments are always at a premium, even counterfeits being accepted as greedily as the real. | lower right
upper left |
| 10 | When we grow old we walk unfeelingly over that which we, in our youth, madly chased. | upper left
lower right |
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(bottom only) |
| 12 | When we get what we want we are always disappointed to find that it is not what we wanted. | upper left
lower right |
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- 17 The only compliment which a woman really dislikes is that which is paid to another. illustration
- 18 Things have changed since Shakespeare's time: men's evil deeds we write in sympathetic ink; their virtues on marble tombstones. illustration
- 19 Our own weaknesses we regard as misfortunes from which we cannot escape; the weaknesses of others we consider crimes. illustration
- 20 No matter how well we do, we are sure to be anxious to impress upon others that what we have achieved is trifling—compared with that of which we are capable. lower left upper right
- 21 A woman is not a woman merely by reason of her sex, any more than an angel is of necessity an angel of light. left lower right
- 22 We are quite able, while hating sin, to pity and be charitable to the sinner—when we happen to be the sinner concerned. illustration
- 23 The commonly accepted idea that a woman of beauty is of necessity lacking in mental qualities, must have originated in the head of some woman who possessed neither. left upper right
- 24 The Devil is not as black as he is painted. In fact, he is more like us than we care to admit. upper left lower right
- 25 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; and as it is more blessed to give than to receive, we prefer to do the wounding. illustration
- 26 The naked truth and a naked lie
Are shocking alike to society. upper left upper right
- 27 A man often envies another man his physical qualities—rarely his mental. As we have no soul mirror we cannot see the reflection of our spiritual deformities. lower right upper left
- 28 It is easy to have conscientious scruples when they are profitable. illustration
- 29 The man who marries for money is a fool, but rarely as big a fool as he who marries for love. illustration
- 30 When you have done a man a favor do not insist too earnestly that it is a mere trifle, or he may take you at your word and not trouble to repay it; which would be very disappointing. illustration
- 31 The gentle art of making enemies is the one natural accomplishment which is common to all sorts and conditions of men—and women. illustration
- 32 What we think of ourselves combined with what others think of us is a very fair estimate. illustration
- 33 If a girl cannot make up her mind between two men it is because she has no mind worth making up.
Besides, any man who will knowingly be one of two is not worth the trouble of thinking about. illustration
- 34 If we devoted as much attention to our own affairs as we freely give to those of others, we and others would be gainers. illustration
- 35 Merit, like the show inside a circus, is of comparatively little use as a drawing card; it is the bluff and buncombe the banging drum and megaphone of the barker which is the successful magnet. upper left lower right
- 36 We always know what we should do under certain circumstances, but unfortunately we never find circumstances arranged so as to suit what we do. illustration
- 37 An over sensitive conscience is simply the evidence of spiritual dyspepsia. The man who has it is no better than his fellows. illustration
- 38 Generosity, as commonly understood, consists in forcing upon others that for which one has no use. illustration

- 39 There is a greater difference between really thinking and only thinking that we think than most of us think. upper left lower right
- 40 We rashly demand that the devil shall have his due, forgetting that if that gentleman gets all that is coming to him it will go badly with some of us. lower left upper right lower right
- 41 If women knew themselves as well as they know men—and if men knew women as well as they know themselves—things would be very much as they are. illustration
- 42 Before he knows a woman a man often thinks her an angel; when he knows her he knows—er—better. illustration
- 43 A critic is one who knows perfectly well how a thing should be done, but is unable to do it. Therefore we are all the keenest critics in matters of which we know least. illustration
- 44 From all enemies and most friends, good Lord, deliver us! illustration
- 45 Everything comes to the man who waits but that is no inducement to wait—for no man wants everything. He usually wants one thing in particular—just that one which he never gets, no matter how long he waits. illustration
- 46 When a man has drained the dregs of the bitterness of life, hope and fear no longer exist in him, only indifference which produces stupefaction. illustration
- 47 Forbidden fruit has no attraction until we know that it is forbidden. illustration
- 48 A man can be judged from the theatres he frequents and the ladies who accompany him there. left lower right
- 49 Criticism grows faint in the presence of successful achievement. left lower right
- 50 A man may confess that his judgment was at fault, but illustration
- 51 never that his intentions were other than strictly honorable. illustration
- 52 Our last match never ignites except when we are sure it will not, and are prepared for the worst. illustration
- 53 It is impossible to serve two masters, and few of us try. We are satisfied to praise God from whom all blessings flow while we cash the checks of Mammon. illustration
- 54 Our own success is due to our indomitable energy and other deserving traits; that of others largely to blind luck. With our energy and the good luck of others what could we not achieve! illustration
- 55 The trouble with most reformers that they waste their time and energy trying to reform somebody else. upper left lower right
- 56 We are convinced in our own minds that every man deserves what he gets; but, judging from ourselves, not every one gets what he deserves. lower left right
- 57 If we saw ourselves as others see us we should not believe our own eyes; but we should have a still lower opinion of the rest of the world than we now have. illustration
- 58 When we care we usually don't dare; when we dare we don't often care. left lower right
- 59 What sounds so sweet as the human voice—to the one who is doing the talking! illustration
- 60 Words may be mere wind, but then so is a tornado. illustration
- 61 Laugh, and the world laughs with you; cry, and the world laughs at you. illustration
- 62 A proverbial expression is often a crystallized lie which we should like to believe. illustration

Because everything is for the best it does not follow that it is for our

63	best.	illustration
64	It is easier to moralize than to be moral.	illustration
65	The difference between an actress on the stage and a woman not on the stage is a matter of here and there.	right upper left
66	Ignorance is not so surprising, nor such a mark of inferiority, as unwillingness to learn.	upper left lower right
67	He who grows indignant when his veracity is questioned generally has good and sufficient reason therefor.	illustration
68	Our joys are mainly those of prospect and retrospect.	illustration
69	It is not to be expected that the average man should know what a real woman is like—he so rarely sees one.	illustration
70	The Chinese promise and never intend to perform; we promise and do intend to perform. The result is about the same.	left right
71	Woman regards the criticizing of her sex as her own prerogative, and criticizes more bitterly than any man would think of doing; but she resents any criticism, no matter how just, from man.	illustration
72	Lambs, it is true, gambol, but in due time they all get fleeced.	illustration
73	What we need is some philosopher to tell us how to be happy when we have every reason for being unhappy.	illustration
74	The most striking trait of the average man is unwillingness to be convinced—that we are right and he is wrong.	illustration
75	If man were so constituted that he could pat himself on the back gracefully, or kick himself effectively, he would spend most of his spare time doing one or the other.	illustration
76	Most of us live as if we expected to be judged from our epitaph rather than from our conduct.	illustration
77	The world is a paradise for fools, a purgatory or worse for others.	illustration
78	When we have the capacity of enjoying we have not the reason for enjoyment; when we do have good and sufficient grounds we no longer have the capacity.	left lower right
79	To be happy, give; to be successful, take; to be happy and successful, give and take.	illustration
80	What a woman admires in a man depends on whether she is married or single.	upper left lower right
81	Confidence given is usually confidence misplaced.	illustration
82	Women admire the gilded youth because he is a golden calf.	left upper right
83	Even those who do not repeat scandal are generally willing to listen to it. Talk of the virtues of another, and, as a rule, your hearers will get bored; only hint that you could a tale unfold and you will secure perfect attention.	illustration
84	We forget that once upon a time we were little children; but the unpleasant fact that we are big children is being constantly forced upon us, together with the moral certainty that we shall never be anything else.	lower right upper left
85	A man considers his little weaknesses amiable traits; a woman—a woman will not admit that she has a weakness.	upper right lower left
86	God's call, through the still small voice, to preach, is much more irresistible when megaphoned by a wealthy church.	illustration
87	Many who sing loud praises to God, pay heavy tribute to the devil.	illustration

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|-----|---|---------------------------|
| 88 | If the world is, as is so often whined, growing worse, it is partly because of our presence in it. | illustration |
| 89 | The counsel of a good book is far superior to that of a man who says one thing and does another. | illustration |
| 90 | If other people would only be as reasonable as we are, what a heaven this earth would be. | illustration |
| 91 | The world has no sympathy for the gambler who loses. | illustration |
| 92 | Trust in God, but keep a sharp lookout on your friends. | illustration |
| 93 | Tell the truth and you will shame the devil; you will also surprise him very often. | illustration |
| 94 | The knowledge that virtue is its own reward is what deters many from well doing. | illustration |
| 95 | It requires no particular skill to win the game when Fortune has dealt you all the trumps. | illustration |
| 96 | We give much more thought to what is due to us than to what is due from us. | illustration |
| 97 | A camel may not be able to pass through the eye of a needle, but that does not deter many a lobster from trying to do so. | illustration |
| 98 | The man who sees things as they are is regarded as a madman, just as those were formerly looked upon who maintained that the earth was round. The average man sees things as they seem to be. | upper left
lower right |
| 99 | We are all convinced of the righteousness and reasonableness of majority rule—when we happen to belong to the majority. | right
lower left |
| 100 | The greater his trouble, the more a man hugs it to his heart. | illustration |

The Artist

Clare Victor Dwiggins ("Dwig"), signatures from the first eight pages:



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