

and is cool and absolutely indifferent to her the next. She will be genial and warm-hearted, giving one her confidence, and the next time you meet her placidly friendly and formal. She never knows when she is in love, although, of course, she thinks she does. She cannot make up her mind which man to encourage or which man to accept, and the very fact of having an offer of marriage from one man will make her wish it had been another one. Even when she thinks she is really in love and accepts a man, she is tortured with doubt as to whether she has done right; whether he really cares as much for her as he says; whether, after all, she wouldn't have been happier with the other one, although she might not care as much for him. And then many people are taken into her confidence, and asked for advice, which she has no more idea of taking than the man in the moon. Only, she likes to hear each one's opinion about it all, because she cannot tell what to think or what to do for the best. Even when she is married, it is just the same. She is not sure whether she has done right or not. She wonders whether she shall be able to make him happy after all, and whether he will find her just what he thought she would be. And then she so often does

A FATAL THING

by constantly asking and bothering her husband about it. For nothing tries a man more than this perpetual fidgeting. It makes him feel that in some way or other he has failed to satisfy her, and he is worried to know in what way. As a rule, he lavishes attentions upon her for this reason; but, as she gets more and more exacting, he gets tired of it, and leaves it off altogether, simply because he feels that nothing can take away her idea that he is dissatisfied, and it is such a strain to keep up, and when once a thing

becomes a strain it soon dies. Very few men understand women, but there is every excuse for a man with an erratic woman. To live with a woman who never knows what she is going to do next, and always wishes she has done something else, is enough to make any man miserable, and this is, perhaps, the reason why so many—or, rather, nearly all—erratic women are such failures as wives. Women who are failures as wives are often failures as mothers, and the erratic woman generally develops into an irritable, peevish, discontented woman, with whom very few have any sympathy or any patience.

The Guest Who is Welcomed Again.

Girl guests are of two well defined types, the one who makes herself agreeable, and always has a string of invitations waiting their turn of fulfilment, and the one who is "difficile," and is not asked again to any house where she has proved a failure. One of these is she who outstays her welcome. Asked for a week, she remains for ten days on one pretext or another, makes a convenience of her hostess and her house, imposes upon the family hospitality, usurping, in short, the attitude and prerogatives of the hostess herself. Particularly is such a girl aggressive if there are shops of keen allurements in the place from which she does not wish to tear herself, or a love affair hanging fire, which she thinks can be fanned into a blaze by her presence. Another species of tiresome visitor is the girl who keeps meals waiting and does not tidy her room. A hostess is in a predicament here. She is not at liberty to put the room to rights herself, and she is not at lib-

erty to ask her guest to do so. The guest chamber thus becomes a scene of chaos painful to behold, and the servants who have to cope with it wax proportionately impatient. A hostess who entertains largely, and is in the habit of superintending all her own household affairs, says that she always keeps "temper work" on hand. She knits a counterpane at odd times while she is waiting for her guest to come to breakfast, and thus maintains her mental equilibrium, for she works her wrath into the bedspread with a zeal worthy of a better cause.

The model guest, it may therefore be inferred, is the one who comes when she is invited and goes home at the expiration of the time specified in the invitation. She is always ready when the gong announces that the meal is served. She busies herself with an attractive piece of needlework, which she afterwards, if it has been admired, presents to the hostess. She makes friends with the dog and cat, and tells stories to the children, praises the family baby, and never forgets a little fee to the servants. She does not intrude herself during the house-working hours, but settles herself in a corner with a book, and has a comfortable "read," though if she can help she does so willingly with a duster, or a rolling pin, making herself particularly beloved by introducing some new puddings and cakes into the repertory of the cook.

The model guest knows how to win appreciation, and when she goes home every one is fond of her, and regrets her departure.

"Do Your Possible."

Some men are invincible by nature. No failure can break them down. After a life of cloud and storm, with scarcely a ray of sunshine to brighten it, they die facing fate defiantly. This constitutional indomitability is a fine

thing. It is the attribute of the highest type of manhood, and if not always a guaranty of success in life, it is certainly, humanely speaking, more likely, when combined with integrity, to attain success, than any other quality with which man is endowed.

But there are thousands of men of superior intellect who are deficient in this glorious gift. Who cannot call to mind some individual of this class, who, after battling manfully against perverse circumstances for a time, at last gave up, acknowledged himself beaten, and tacitly admitted that his life was a miserable failure? Many a man has thus broken down, when one more vigorous essay would have tided him over his difficulties, brought him into smooth water, and enabled him to snap his fingers triumphantly at a world which scarcely bestowed a pitying look on him as he threw up his arms and ceased to struggle. Certain dismal moralists tell us that it is unwise to view the world through rose-coloured glass; that our surroundings are "all a fleeting show for man's illusion given." But we maintain that it is always best to look at the bright side of things if they have one, and if they have not, to believe that they will have if we persistently try to light them up. This is the creed in which every boy should be educated. Let the young be taught to trust in Providence and themselves, and to fight adverse circumstances to the last gasp. In a large majority of such gladiatorial combats, he who thus "champions fate to the uttermost," wins the day; and at the worst it is a consolation in defeat to feel that nothing man could do to secure victory has been left undone. Never think of breaking down before any impediments. Think only of breaking over them. Let difficulty find you, as the Scotch say, always ready to "do your possible."—Selected.

Gold Medal Jams,
Best Value in the Market.

Gold Medal Biscuits,
Best Value in the Market.

Gold Medal Confections, largest variety, best quality,
Peels. Only Makers Cupid Whispers in the Colony,
Gold Medal Conserves,