

MEN OF GENIUS.

Tasso's conversation was neither gay nor brilliant. Dante was either taciturn or satirical. Butler was either sullen or biting. Grey seldom talked or smiled. Hogarth and Swift were absent-minded in company. Milton was very unsocial and irritable when pressed into conversation. Keats, though copious and eloquent in public addresses, was meagre and dull in colloquial discourse. Virgil was heavy in conversation. La Fontaine appeared heavy, coarse and stupid; he could not speak and describe what he had just seen; but then he was the model of poetry. Chaucer's silence was more agreeable than his conversation. Dryden's conversation was slow and dull, his humor saturnine and reserved. Corneille in conversation was so insipid that he never failed in wearying; he did not even speak correctly that language of which he was such a master. Ben Jonson used to sit silent in company and sip his wine. Southey was stiff, sedate and wrapped up in asceticism. Addison was good company with his intimate friends, but in mixed company he preserved his dignity by a stiff and reserved silence. For in conversation never flagged, his animation and vivacity were inexhaustible. Dr. Bentley was loquacious, as was also Grotius. Goldsmith "wrote like an angel and talked like poor Poll." Burke was entertaining, enthusiastic and interesting in conversation. Gargan was a convivial dandy. Leigh Hunt was a pleasant dream in conversation. Carlyle double, objects and constantly demure.

SMALL-POX.—A writer in the Santa Cruz Times says:

"As the best treatment (and the writer has had considerable experience in it) the first rule to act upon is, use common sense. The result will be beneficial to all about you and to yourself. No fear for the patient as long as the eruption is out and the circulation equalized, by keeping the feet warm (bottles of hot water or hot bricks will do this), and the head cool, with cold water poured on, or wet cloths, kept cold and laid on the head. The bowels should be kept free by a daily enema of tepid water, and the skin cool and moist by frequent spongings in tepid water, if the fever be high, a process which greatly alleviates the sufferings of the patient, giving that rest and quiet so necessary to the cure. For food, the less the better, a little gruel, lemonade or cooked fruit, if it be palatable, and all the water the patient craves to drink. The disfigurement so much dreaded can be avoided by excluding the air from the face, and thus preventing the formation of pockmarks. This is easily done by making a wet cloth, or covering the face with wet cloths, cutting holes for the eyes, nose and mouth, or varnishing with linseed oil, or thick molasses will do anything to exclude the air; and this should be done immediately, before the pustules form, and be continued till the eruption descends to the feet. Great care should be taken lest the patient take cold, and yet has sufficient good, fresh air to breathe, which can be effected by having a fire in the room and the windows open. With ordinary care and nursing small-pox need not create a panic as it does, and is in reality less fatal than scarlet fever. Though, from its loathsomeness and the disfigurement consequent on it, it is classed among the 'plagues,' which few attribute to the former, and the rapid, constant course of heart disease, dyspepsia, and a score of evils following the victims of scarlet fever, under its usual treatment, should they recover from it primarily."

MONEY, or coin was not made until a comparatively late period of the world's history; and it is supposed that it was first cast in molds—not stamped with dies. Thus we learn from Herodotus that prior to either of the modes named being adopted, "the gold and silver were melted, and poured into earthen vessels, and these, when filled, were removed, leaving the metal in a solid mass. When any was wanted, a piece was broken off of the ingot, and used for the occasion." This was probably about 500 years before the Christian era. Some time about this period the same author relates the following anecdote about Croesus, king of Lydia, whose name has been proverbially associated with riches: "When Croesus sent his Lydians from Sardis to consult the oracle of Delphi, they were received with hospitality by the family of the Alcmenides, at Athens, and on their return, acquainted their master with the fact. Croesus, who had experienced a member of the family, received an invitation to visit Croesus, and, on his arrival, was presented with as much gold as he could carry. To improve the value of the gift, he made use of the following artifice: Providing himself with a large tunic, in which were many folds, and with the most capacious basket he could procure, he followed his guide to the royal treasury. Then, rolling himself amongst the golden ingots, he first stuffed his basket with gold, and then, as he possibly could, he then filled all the folds of his robe, his hair, and even his mouth, with gold dust. This done, with extreme difficulty he staggered from the place, his swelled mouth and projections resembling anything but a man. When Croesus saw him, he burst into laughter, and not only suffered him to carry away all he had got, but added to it other presents equally valuable." From this story we learn the fact that the wealth of Croesus was principally in gold as found in nature.

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