

functions of home; so that from the conversations of a young man or woman we learn nowadays but little of his family and too much of the clique in which idle hours are spent. Let me hear you talk, young man, and I will tell you in what society you spend those leisure hours, more precious to you now than gold, and for the recovery of a few of which you will some day willingly exchange thousands in gold. "Thy speech betrayeth thee." There is no mother's loving gentleness in that ribald talk in which if you are not personally sharing you are taking an interested part; a sister never indicted the slang with which you spin your otherwise insipid words; no where in the family library at home did you find that flippant wisdom which best suits white men with faces blacked; if that is your conversational budget, that your manner of speech, there are families in the land into which you could not enter with a welcome. Yes carry it home young man and open it out, and father and mother will drive you from the household. Very objectionable from another point of view is the effort to make conversation the means of displaying book-learning. If you have ever read any of Mrs Augusta Evans' writings you will know what I mean. Learning is not to be deprecated; let us have more of it, but to go out of the way for the purpose of lugging it in; to talk like a book, as it is sometimes expressed, to be learnedly pompous in speech as Dr. Johnston was in the use of words, is like writing a friendly letter in the turgid forensic eloquence of a Burk or Webster. Study to make your conversation entertaining, that is, let it be the outflow of the healthy mind from the healthy body. Let it be your conception of things from your point of view, treasures fresh and sweetsmelling from your keeping and your careful method of handling. The best teacher is not the man who tells you most, but the man who draws the most from you, so the most entertaining conversationalist is the one who puts us most at our ease and whilst entertaining gives us the desire and ability to entertain in turn. Among the temptations which most beset the pathway of the