

SUNSHINE COLUMN

NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF INTER NATIONAL SUNSHINE SOCIETY. Mrs. J. M. RANSIER, State President, Hendersonville, N. C.

MRS. RANSIER'S LETTER.

Miscellaneous Sunny Suggestions from Sunshine Headquarters.

Yes, the world is growing better; I am glad your faith is strong In the power of truth and justice To triumph over the wrong; I am glad you think earth rolling Out of darkness into light, But what are you doing, brother, To make the old world bright?

Yes, a day is coming better Than we have dared to dream, Gladder than the wild bird's carol, More bright than sunshine's gleam; I am glad you wait its dawning Without a doubt or fear, But what are you doing, brother, To bring that day more near?

Yes, our cause is sure to triumph, Because 'tis true and just, And will help to lift the burden From those crushed to the dust; I am glad you watch its progress With hopeful heart and strong, But what are you doing, brother, To help the cause along?

—E. E. Miller.

* * *

A great singer had just finished singing "Home, Sweet Home," and many of the audience were in tears. "It is a beautiful song," said a girl to an old woman who sat next to her. "Yes," was the reply, "and the sentiment to which it moves all these people is beautiful. How much happier the world would be if every one had as much principle as sentiment on the subject, and followed out a plain, every-day rule of making home sweet."

The girl turned thoughtfully away. She hardly heard the next song. She was acknowledging to herself that in spite of her love for home she made it unhappy every day of her life by her wilfulness and quick temper.

How many of us really do our best to make home happy?

The Sunshiner's sun should never be obscured by clouds, but should shine forth radiantly by day and night, always striving to make the world brighter for any one who may be in need of a kind word. A bright smile or a sympathetic hand-clasp, maybe a bit of personal service, a kind deed pleasantly performed at little cost except the personal effort, will carry sunshine into some dark corner that will afterward reflect happiness into your own life.

* * *

When you find a way to lighten the dark hours of a lonely life, don't keep it a secret, but give us all a chance to join in the "sunshine" of it with you. Tell us what you are trying to do—not because you want to parade the fact, but because there is a need of this "good cheer" and because you have found an acceptable way of scattering sunshine. By making the fact known, others can join you in scattering the sunshine of good cheer broadcast, and thus greater good can be accomplished than if

you did it single-handed. Many people say to me:

"I don't believe in telling of all the good I do. The Bible tells us not to let our left hand know what our right hand doeth." Yes, and my Bible tells me in the words of our blessed Master to "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Such people often make use of the proverb that "charity begins at home," and for all the world knows, they keep it there, for there never is any visible outlet of their charity. This sort of people misinterpret the meaning of sunshine. As Mrs. Alden says: "If you have a light, don't put it under a bushel; that won't do any good; let it shine that others may see it."

All people who believe in the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, and the progress of mankind onward and upward forever, and are working for the betterment of unfortunate human conditions, are quickened by the greatest spiritual force—love—and if we would all do as the poet says and "turn our clouds about and show the lining—for the inner side is bright and shining"—this would be a happier world and we would all be better for the effort some of us have to make to see the silver lining of our clouds of discouragement.

* * *

The beauty of charming manners is beyond estimation.

Be bright and sunny. Good manners are expressions of thoughtfulness.

You can do very many pleasant and helpful things under the guise of good manners. Good manners bring you happiness, and lots of it.

Good manners are in reality the art of giving pleasure to others.

Good manners are another name for our Sunshine work. You remember the constitution says the dues are "a kind act that will bring the sunshine of happiness into the hearts of others." Open your heart; let the sunshine in.

* * *

Speaking of the education of Mexican girls, Miss McGary, in the book on Mexico mentioned a week or two ago, says:

"When a girl has learned to write the most diminutive faint hand—to express herself extravagantly in poetic language—the spelling mostly correct, there is no fault to be found with her literary education. Schools are as primitive as everything else in Mexico. The small children study aloud like the Chinese, and to a person passing a school-house it sounds like buzzing bees."

I wish I could tell you about the Mexican's courtships, and especially the courtship of Miss McGary by "Senor Don Edurada." It is very amusing, but I have already taken up so much space, you will have to get the book and read it yourself.

* * *

Who is going to be the very first one to send in his or her name as a Sunshiner this week? We want to have a membership of thousands and connect this dear old State in a great big sunbeam. Come! Send in yours and all your neighbors. It won't hurt you to do that much. 'Twill do you good, and us, too.

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