

CHRONIC "LOOKERS."

Females Who Make the Life of Shop-Girls Unendurable.

"Here comes a 'looker,' said one saleslady to another so loudly that her remark was overheard by a reporter, who was standing at a counter near by. "Yes," said the person addressed, "and she's got a fellow with her, too." "May be she will buy something, then, just to show her young man what an economical shopper she is," said the first speaker.

The young lady who was evidently meant by the salesgirl was fine-looking, neatly dressed and, as far as appearance went, was certainly unobjectionable. So, with some curiosity the reporter asked the pretty girl waiting on him what was meant by calling that young lady a "looker."

"Why, don't you know?" said she, smiling. "How green you men are about shopping! Every woman knows that a 'looker' is a woman who simply looks at goods, doesn't expect to buy any, puts you to all the trouble she can, asks you to cut off a sample, and then says she will come in again to-morrow. And so she does, to bother some one else."

"A 'looker,'" continued the salesgirl, loquaciously, "is usually to be found frequenting the large dry goods stores. Her visit is timed in that portion of the day when you are most busy and desirous of making your sales as large as possible in order to stand in well with the 'powers that be.'"

"Then in comes a looker and wants to be shown all the goods at once. How we hate her. Oh," said the girl impulsively to the reporter, "if we only dared talk to her as she deserved wouldn't she just catch it, though."

At this thought the shopgirl's eyes fairly danced as if in anticipation of how she would get square for once and for all with the troublesome lookers if she had but half a chance given her.

"The looker," resumed the girl, "is generally making a crazy quilt, or something or other, and belongs to the same class of young women who go around bothering young men for their neckties, and who feel deeply aggrieved if they don't instantly promise them their very best ties before they have done wearing them."

"She comes here for samples of silks and dress goods." "Mamma wanted a sample and couldn't come out herself." Or, "Papa wanted to see what the goods would look like before I ordered the dress," and so on. Finally we hit upon a scheme that put an end to the looker's using our samples of goods for fancy work. We cut the samples as narrow as possible and then clip a little piece out of the center of the same, telling the looker when she says: "Oh, what did you do that for?" that we were only cutting our trade-mark into the goods in order that she might know from what store she procured them. That generally had the desired effect, and gives the looker to understand that we are perfectly aware of what she wants the samples for, and don't intend to let any one make crazy-quilts at our expense.

"Another species of looker is one who comes from a well-to-do family, and has nothing to do but to kill time. She is not intellectual enough to read. It makes her head ache. 'Calling is a bore,' she yawns, and then she 'guesses, she will go shopping.' She expects us to be pleasant and amiable, and so obliging. 'Show me this. Now show me that.' Every thing must be hauled out for her inspection. Rarely she buys; makes us provoked, cross, angry, and mad, until we wish that the whole tribe of 'lookers' could be turned, like Lot's wife, into a pillar of salt, and we could turn the hose on it and put an end to her forever.—N. Y. News.

AMERICAN CONCEIT.

Murat Halstead Illustrates it by Repeating a Good Story.

Once I heard an American in a smoking-room in an English hotel engaged in conversation with a British officer on the subject of the war in this country. The American was a Kentuckian, who, desiring to impress his interlocutor with the amenities of our civilization and the refinements of home influences, had just told an anecdote of a neighbor and companion who galloped into the county town while court was in session, his belt stuck full of revolvers and a double-barreled shot-gun across the pommel of his saddle, and spurred his horse up and down the street, defying every thing and ready to murder any and every body in a moment, and sure to get the drop on one who criticized his performance. The response of the officer to the touching narrative was that the story was "something extraordinary." He listened intently, and ventured, when the hero of the tale rode off in triumph, brandishing his shot-gun and daring the world in arms to fight, to change the subject by observing: "I suppose that the battles of the Franco-German war were far more bloody than any of those in the war in your country?"

The expression of the young Kentuckian was that of indignant amazement. "No, sir," said he in thrilling tones, "the battles that were fought in

my country were the bloodiest that were ever fought anywhere on earth. Now, take the battle of Shiloh; it raged without a moment's intermission for seven days and nights. When it began it was in the midst of a dense wilderness on the Tennessee, and when it was ended there was not a tree standing within nine miles of the river, and twenty thousand men were killed on each side and were dead in the fallen timber."

The British officer remarked: "It is astonishing. I think you possibly mean that there were twenty thousand men on each side killed, wounded and missing; say forty thousand on both sides *hors de combat*. That would be sufficient, I should say, for a great battle," and he called for another brandy and soda. "No, sir," said the citizen from old Kentucky; "there were twenty thousand dead on each side, and they were buried where they fell. There was nothing like that in the French and Dutch fighting," and, of course, there was not.—Murat Halstead, in North American Review.

—Artificial silk is not yet manufactured on an industrial scale, but it appears that this will very shortly be done, and, while it is impossible to foretell with certainty what will be the commercial results of this curious invention, it is impossible to resist the conclusion that it is highly practicable, and that it even contains the elements of great future success.

—Christmas trees are declared to be going out of fashion in New York.

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A large iron safe, of best make and in first-class condition. Apply at this office.

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I will sell at public auction in front of the courthouse in Oxford, Monday, Jan. 27, 1890, the desirable dwelling house and lot on High St., adjoining lots owned by R. J. Mitchell, R. J. Aiken and L. Thomas. The house is commodious, well built and contains seven rooms. Terms, one-half cash and balance in six and twelve months.

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Barber Shop. Will have a full complement of competent assistants in a few days. Will spare no efforts to give my customer's complete satisfaction.

DISSOLUTION NOTICE.

The firm of Griffin, Glenn & Co. has been this day dissolved by mutual consent. James McLean withdrawing from the partnership. The business will be continued by W. G. Griffin and W. B. Glenn under the firm name of Griffin & Glenn, who will collect all accounts and settle all debts.

W. G. GRIFFIN, W. B. GLENN, JAS. McLEAN.

December 1st, 1889

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