

Chemistry of Pleasure

As pleasure is the brightest element in our life history it seems well to consider its composition, how obtained and how best effected. We study the chemistry of minerals and all important elements, and by so doing we obtain a more definite idea of what they are composed and of what value they can be to man. By such experiments elements have been combined and have produced most wonderfully improved substances, much more important than the separate elements. In studying the chemistry of pleasure we must follow the same analysis and mode of operation as in analyzing substances. Pleasure may be divided into natural and artificial, the former surpasses all other in sublimity, it is that which startles us and awakens our inner self to realize a superior ruling king. It is constant in its effects, and may be enjoyed equally by all. The little brook warbles as sweet a tune to the little fisher boy as it does to the most royal of men. The birds sing as sweetly around the rudest of cottages as they do among the trees of the most elegant of palaces. The beautiful landscape spreads far

away into the distance and inspires us to do greater deeds and more noble acts. When the earth has donned her robe of darkness when summer has almost fled, when all is hushed save the sweet song of the katydid, the low chirp of the cricket or some other songster which tries to add one more note to the night chorus. On an evening like this stop and listen, our very souls will be filled with pleasure, pleasure unspeakable.

No greater provision for man's pleasure was ever created than sleep. How refreshing after a day of toil and exertion, to lay ourselves in the arms of Morpheus and for a while experience no pain, no sorrow, no care, and awake and commence living where we left off, after experiencing a pleasure too sublime to be estimated by any pain.

Artificial pleasure may be from four sources, we may have mental, moral, spiritual, and that coming by the action of the senses. Few persons who do not find enjoyment in one of these classes ^{and} fewer still who could not run one of them to a vice.

Mental pleasure, has been experienced by every student, how charming to become so interested

as to forget self and all else, and only revile in thoughts of the subject. Reading books, papers and letters all bring a peculiar pleasure. To be able to reason, to remember and judge for our self, to be so constituted that we can take cognizance of our surroundings brings a pleasure that makes us feel proud of our existence.

Moral and spiritual pleasure may be treated as one, as the results are similar. An easy conscience, a good reputation is a great enough reward to prompt any one to do better and live a life that is full of truth and honesty, that repays nature for her exertions.

The pleasure derived from our senses is almost unlimited and is the source of the most visible pleasure. We can allow our senses to become so dormant that we can scarcely realize pleasure or they can be so perfectly under our control that we can shape and arrange our own pleasure. We can so abuse our senses that we can not govern them so as to enjoy what is the best for us.

Sight and hearing of our senses are most helpful in affording pleasure, of course the sense of taste may afford some pleasure

but the enjoyment is not of long duration
 how ever effecting it may be at the time.
 it seems to be more of a necessity, a consequence
 of nature, than an artificial element of pleasure,
 while hearing and seeing seem to be for
 man's convenience and pleasure.

Our amusements vary with age, surroundings,
 disposition and numerous other causes. A
 man of severity does not longer find amuse-
 ment in marbles as a boy of sense. A person
 of a quiet disposition would not find
 much enjoyment in dancing or games
 of any kind. So you see pleasure is a vari-
 able term, varies with almost each in-
 dividual. As man becomes more highly
 developed he becomes more capable to enjoy,
 and invents new forms of enjoyment. he re-
 joices that every thing is so perfected for
 his pleasure, he smiles and even laughs which
 shows his gratitude, this makes him feel all
 the better for he has shown by an outward
 acknowledgement his appreciation of what
 was great or good. He could show no better
 expression of his joyful feeling.

Deprive man of pleasure and why need
 he live? What should our lives for nought.

but pain? Rather not have lived at all. Take from man this bright essential element and you have robbed him of every thing, his wealth, his very life, of what use is wealth if it brings but pain, of what use is gold with a cankered heart, what is left after pleasure is all gone, when sorrow rears supreme? Man is man no more.

Pleasure may seem to be a very insignificant component but when we think of the thousands, yes, millions on our fair continent that have not seen or enjoyed any of God's beautiful gifts. Can we then consider it so lightly? When the greatest of all pleasure should be in promoting the pleasure of others. Our life is too short to spend it all in darkness and despair. To live in its trust^{ful} & broadest sense we must enjoy and find enjoyment. There is enough of such material in the world, only too ready for us to chisel out our pathway.

O. Jeannetta Zimmerman.

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