

A gentleman may leave his card for a bereaved friend, or in other delicate ways signify his sympathy, but unless the friendship be a very familiar one he should not write to him of the bereavement, or speak to him of it when they meet.

A gentleman never makes a formal call without asking to see all the ladies of the family. He sends in or leaves his card for each individual. If he be calling upon a young lady who is a guest in a household with whom he has no acquaintance, he must ask to see her hostess at the same time, and also send her his card. This hostess of his friend may decline interrupting his visit with her presence, but it is considered elegant and hospitable for her to descend before his visit terminates, to assure him that her guest's friends are welcome to her house.

When he desires to see a lady whom he meets in society, she may, if the acquaintance warrants it, and she has been out in society one full season, receive him without the presence of her mother or *chaperon*, and he may not construe this informality into an indelicacy. It is a standard of social freedom that is proper to an American.

The mother is likely to excuse herself. She knows the constantly expressed desire to see herself is complimentary and respectful, and as such the well-bred lady usually receives it; but should she appear, and remain during the entire visit, all the same, he must be agreeable to her, and ask for her every time he calls.

*General Directions for Cards and Calling.* A call in person should not be returned by a card.

After cards have been left once in the season, they need not be left again, excepting after an invitation, or upon a guest stopping in the house.