

A gentlemen invited by a lady to call upon her cannot, without showing her great discourtesy, neglect to pay the call within a week. He is not obliged to repeat it, or to do more than leave his card at her door.

Cards and invitations sent by post should be removed from their stamped envelopes before putting them in the card-receiver.

The rule found in books on etiquette, "Visiting cards can under no circumstances be sent by post, or delivered in envelopes at the door," is in a fair way of becoming a dead rule. It has always had its exceptions.

When a lady receives weekly, a resident, desirous of calling upon her, cannot make a first call on the reception day, unless asked to call on that day.

After such a card has once been left, one is at liberty to call the following season on the same day, unless a card has been left or sent in the meantime with the day changed.

Persons living in the same neighborhood should select the same day for receiving. It is too much to expect your friends to remember the days that are not arranged for particular localities, and wanting in thoughtfulness for their convenience as well.

In respect to the San Francisco custom of all ladies having stated days for receiving, a noble lady writing on etiquette, says: "To receive visitors on a stated day in each week is only to be justified by the exigencies of a lofty position." To this we might add for social use: "Unless the convenience of callers is studied by the uniting of an entire neighborhood on a given day." The day fixed by the oldest resident should be adopted by all.

One cannot return the calls of elderly ladies, or even of their equals in age, by leaving cards at the door. It is not considered respectful. If the cards of persons much younger are left after hospitalities extended to them, one is at liberty to make a card serve for a return visit.