

Her Tongue, by Henry Arthur Jones

Minnie and Felicia* want to marry off their cousin Patty as quickly as possible, to spare them any more embarrassing association. Although not even married themselves yet, they are more than willing to play matchmaker for Patty even if it means they will give up a possibility of marriage for themselves. Mr. Scobell to be the perfect catch for Patty – because he plans to move out of the country with her!

Although she wants to marry off her cousin, Felicia has her doubts about Patty succeeding in securing a suitor, and rightly so, since Patty has scared off many men in the past. Patty is not disagreeable per se, but she has no discretion concerning when to talk, when not to talk, what to say, and when to say it. Patty is also self-centered, without a thought about what her company might like to talk about. Patty is often found talking about herself, and that subject can only be interesting for so long. Mr. Scobell sees Patty's true nature quickly enough, and not only is he turned off, but he is embarrassed that his judgment concerning women has been so askew.

Proverbs 1:22: "As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout, so is a fair woman which is without discretion." Eccl 3:5 "...a time to keep silence and a time to speak." James 1:19 "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath."

Patty would have done well to be more eager to listen and tend to other's feelings before her own. This play outlines in a comic way the awkwardness lack of discretion can create, and we hope you will never find yourself in a similar situation. We urge you, also, to think before you speak.

**Note: The original play does not have Felicia - the character is Fred, Minnie's husband. We did not have enough qualified males to fill all the necessary roles at the time we performed this show and were forced to change Fred's part to a woman. Minnie and Fred's motives as husband and wife would therefore be different than Minnie and Felicia's motives as sisters.*