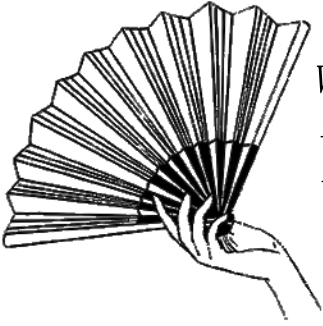


# LANGUAGE OF FANS



*What graces does not a fan place at a woman's disposal if she only knows how to use it properly! It waves, it flutters, it closes, it expands, it is raised or lowered according to circumstances. Oh! I will wager that in all the paraphernalia of the loveliest and best-dressed women in the world, there is no ornament with which she can produce so great an effect.*

--Madame Stael, quoted in Every Woman's Encyclopedia (1910)

## Fan Flirtation

*Carrying in right hand in front of face.....Follow me.  
Carrying in left hand in front of face.....I wish to be acquainted.  
Placing on right ear.....You have changed.  
Twirling in left hand.....I wish to get rid of you.  
Drawing across forehead.....We are watched  
Carrying in right hand.....You are too willing.  
Twirling in right hand.....I love another.  
Closing.....I wish to speak with you.  
Drawing across the eyes.....I am sorry.  
Resting on right cheek.....Yes.  
Resting on left cheek.....No.  
Open and shut.....You are cruel.  
Dropping.....We will be friends.  
Fanning slowly.....I am married.  
Fanning quickly.....I am engaged.  
Handle to lips.....Kiss me.  
Shut.....You have changed.  
Open wide.....Wait for me.  
Drawing through hand.....I hate you.  
Drawing across cheek.....I love you.*

*From Daniel Shafer's Secrets of Life Unveiled (1877)*

