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**Realism.**

A certain fiction writer applied to a friend, an interne in a hospital, for some local color for a tale he had based upon an occurrence in such an institution.

The interne couldn't think of anything of moment, but the writer jogged his memory thus:

"Surely you know of some realistic bit here that I could use."

"I have it!" suddenly exclaimed the interne.

"Yes," eagerly came from the writer. "Here is realism with a vengeance," said the youthful interne. "One of our patients walked in his sleep because he dreamed he had no car fare."—New York Globe.

**The Periscope.**

Permit me to introduce myself to the public generally. Modest and retiring both by nature and occupation, I have hitherto refrained from obtruding myself upon the attention of the multitude.

My name is Periscope. My principal object in life is to rise to every necessary occasion. When this demands my more or less immediate presence I occupy myself by holding up the mirror, not to nature, but to the enemy. Like an occasional idea which renders superfluous old systems of philosophy, I have come to render superfluous an entire cycle of inventions. I am the last triumph of mind over matter. I reflect, and a thousand men go down to their fate. Within the blue zone of my horizon, subject to my orders, flits the angel of death.

**Questions that a Good Citizen Should Know.**

- D. Have you read the Constitution of the United States?  
R. Yes.
- D. What form of Government is this?  
R. Republican.
- D. What is the Constitution of the United States?  
R. It is the fundamental law of this country.
- D. Who makes the laws of the United States?  
R. The Congress.
- D. What does Congress consist of?  
R. Senate and House of Representatives.
- D. Who is the chief executive of the United States?  
R. President.
- D. For how long is the President of the United States elected?  
R. 4 years.
- D. Who takes the place of the President in case he dies?  
R. The Vice President.
- D. What is his name?  
R. Thomas R. Marshall.
- D. By whom is the President of the United States elected?  
R. By the electors.
- D. By whom are the electors elected?  
R. By the people.
- D. Who makes the laws for the State of Pennsylvania?  
R. The Legislature.
- D. What does the Legislature consist of?  
R. Senate and Assembly.
- D. How many States in the Union?  
R. 48.
- D. When was the Declaration of Independence signed?  
R. July 4, 1776.
- D. By whom was it written?  
R. Thomas Jefferson.
- D. Which is the capital of the United States?  
R. Washington.
- D. Which is the Capital of the State of Pennsylvania?  
R. Harrisburg.
- D. How many Senators has each State in the United States Senate?  
R. Two.
- D. By whom are they elected?  
R. By the people.
- D. For how long?  
R. 6 years.

**GOOD HABITS.**

Good habits bring a personal freedom that it is impossible to obtain otherwise. The man who has the habit of doing anything that he ought to do with clocklike regularity is saved from a galling bondage of uncertainty, hesitation, energy wasting debate with himself, renewed day after day and growing more of a burden as life advances.

**Same as Being Away.**

Neighbor's Little Girl—When did you get back, Mrs. Browne? Did you have a nice time?

Neighbor—Why, I haven't been away, my dear.

"Haven't you, really? I'm sure I heard mother say you and Mr. Browne had been at Loggerheads for a week."—National Monthly.

**Soldering Aluminium.**

When holes appear in aluminium utensils it is not necessary to discard the dishes as no longer useful, for by a simple method they can be made to take solder. Insert a brass or copper rivet in the hole, flatten both ends and then solder over both the inside and the outside surfaces in the usual manner. If you wish to solder a piece to a sound part of the utensil use a sharp awl to punch holes for holding spots of copper or brass. If the aluminium is very thick cut the holes with a small drill held in a carpenter's bit brace.

**Well Answered.**

Restaurant Patron (caustically)—I am glad to see your baby has shut up, madam.

Mother—Yes, sir. You are the only thing that's pleased him since he saw the animals eat at the zoo.—Puck.

**Fires in the Philippines.**

The fighting of fires in the dry season is a grave problem in the cities and pueblos of the Philippine Islands. House construction is light, the roofs being made from nipa palm leaves, the framework of bamboo and the sides of either nipa or sawall—a woven product of certain species of bamboo. When this material has been exposed continuously to the sun for several months it becomes as inflammable as tinder. Fires that break out in the nipa districts always gain great headway before any kind of an alarm can be sent in even where there is a fire department. Fires in such districts spread with great rapidity. In thickly populated areas it is not uncommon for a fire to burn several hundred houses before it is stopped.



*The Old Year and the New*  
by Harry Lyman Greene

To—"good-by. My task is done. I've swung the circle of the sun. I've given all that Life bestows. I've dealt Fate's cards to friends, to foes. I've touched you each with joy and care. Drawn wrinkles here, smoothed wrinkles there. And if I've frosted temples gray, I've made warm lips to kiss away The chill. Tho' Death, tho' strife I've visited—I've granted Life.

I'm Time. I've robbed your cradle dear, Yet I ask you—your dying Year, Have I not filled it? Answer free, If I've robbed you have not you cheated me? Have not you sought to kill me—Time? Have not you wasted me—God's gift sublime?  
Misspent me, mocked me, wished me on my way, Loathed and reviled me—prayed another day, And when I granted it, mocked that one, too,  
Are we not quit at evens—I and you?

'Tis Kismet—Fate. Old World, good-by, My cycle's done—I faint—I die.



Oh, World! dear World—at last my dream is true. Through all eternity I've longed for you, impatient of the years I had to wait. Each nerve a quiver, lest I be too late. And now I'm here—and all of you are mine  
For my brief reign. Yet, also, I am thine. For use—abuse—but treat me as you may. Remember this—I'll give and take away. And but this moment born—but half awake, I'll tell you now what I'll both give and take.

I'll take a life from out you here and there. I'll give—a lover true—a sweetheart fair. Half of your fondest hopes I'll steal away, I'll grant a grain of wisdom day by day. And tho', perchance, I should take Peter's all, With lavish hands I'll shower it on Paul, I'll smite some of you with an iron glove, I'll nurse some others with my tenderest love. I'm 'both your queen and slave. I now make way. This night is yours. Tomorrow you'll repay.

Bring forth the jesters. Fill the cup of cheer. You've waited me forever. World, I'm here.

**Tutti quegli Italiani che desiderano fare la carta di cittadinanza americana, possono rivolgersi al nostro ufficio, che un nostro impiegato si incaricherà di esplicare tutte le pratiche necessarie SENZA ALCUN COMPENSO.**

**Will Succeed Whitman as District Attorney**



Photo by American Press Association  
CHARLES A. PERKINS.

Charles Albert Perkins will be district attorney of New York county, Jan. 1, Mr. Whitman has announced. He will hold office one year unless elected to the office at the general election next fall. Mr. Perkins will go to Albany with Mr. Whitman and the first official act of the new governor will be to appoint him.

**The Egyptian Lotus.**

The lotus figures to a very great extent in ancient Egyptian sculpture though the flower is often crude and difficult to make out. The fruit of the Egyptian lotus was forbidden as food to disciples of Pythagoras. The lotus was dedicated to the goddess of fecundity, Isis, and buds are said to have been found in the tombs of ancient Egyptian kings. Egyptologists have decided that the lotus of Egypt was the common white water lily of the Nile and not the true sacred nelumbo of the far east.

**Got All He Asked For.**

Another "meanest man" has been found. He lives in the city and conducts a thriving business. The other day a seedy individual approached him and said: "Say, mister, I'm hungry and would like to get a nickel to get a cup of coffee and a roll. I have four pennies and only need one more. Please give me a penny."  
The man after searching himself said: "I haven't got a penny. All I have is a nickel. Give me your four cents in change, and I will give you the nickel."  
The beggar requests that his name be not mentioned in connection with the item.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

**A Doleful Mood.**

The proprietor of a Paris cafe noticed that after he had refused to give his pianist an increase of salary the number of his customers dwindled rapidly. It was only when all but one diner had deserted him that he discovered that the pianist had been inflicting Chopin's "Funeral March" on the audience nightly. The pianist, who was proceeded against in the law courts and was fined 5 francs, pleaded that he played according to the mood he felt in after his request had been refused.

**Fort Sumter.**

For four years Fort Sumter, in Charleston harbor, resisted every attempt at its capture. For 280 days the fort was actually under fire. "The duration of the three principal and eight minor bombardments was altogether 157 days and 116 nights. The total weight of metal thrown against the fort from land and sea aggregated 3,500 tons, and of this great mass the fort was actually struck by 2,400 tons. The number of projectiles fired against the fort was 46,058.—Philadelphia Ledger.

**An Ungallant Rascal.**

"I suppose," said the angular spinster, "that you never had a romance?"  
"Dat's where youse is wrong," replied the unlauded hobo. "I wunst had a sweetheart wot wuz a dead ringer fer youse."  
"And did she die?" asked the angular spinster as she helped him to another hunk of pie.  
"No, ma'am," answered the hobo. "When leap year come round she asked me t' marry her—an' I run away from home."—Chicago News.

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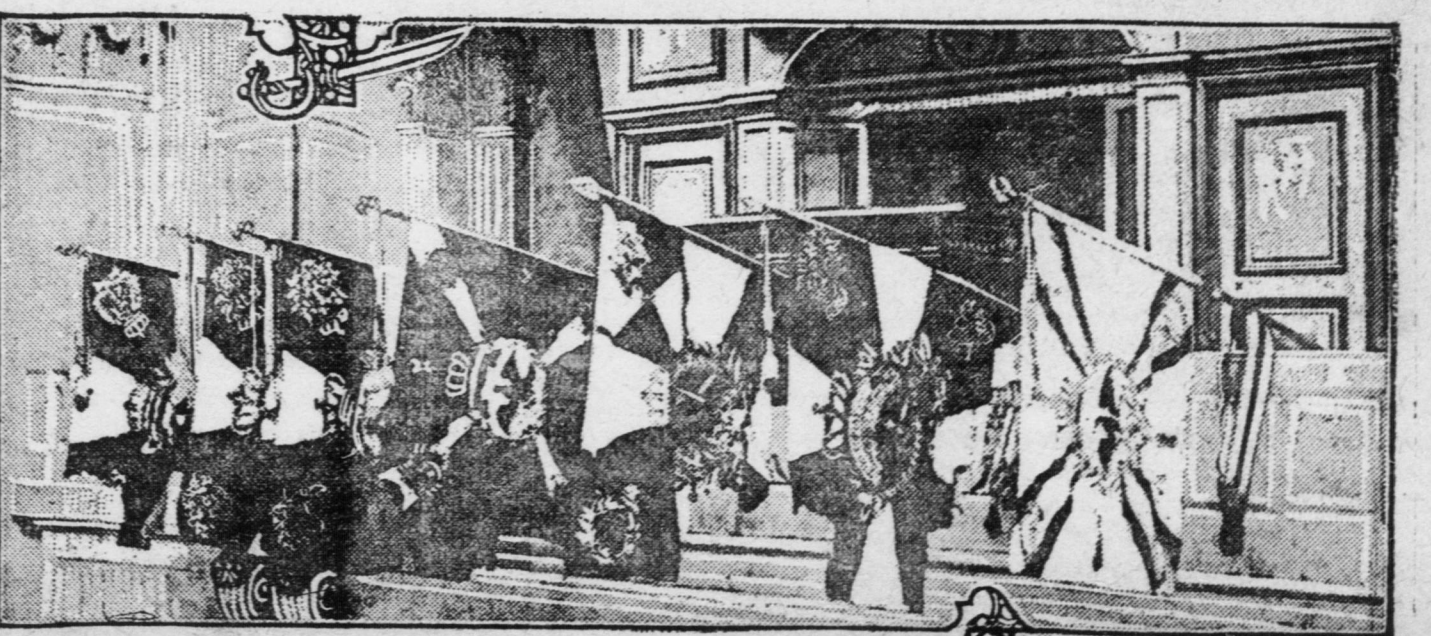
**AT THE AUDITORIUM JANUARY, 11<sup>TH</sup>**  
**HER PERSONALITY FASCINATES HEARERS**



MARGARET STAHL

THE right to the title of the greatest woman reader of plays on the Lyceum platform has been fairly won by Margaret Stahl in a free field without favor. Her name carries with it the promise of an evening of rare enjoyment, wherever the Lyceum is known. Her splendid personality fascinates her hearers, and the charm of an elemental womanhood that is bigger than all art, and better than all acting, overwhelms them. Her art extends no less to the presentation of her work than in its selection, her repertoire being chosen with discriminating taste, plays which have a universal appeal, and whose lesson is an uplifting one, being chosen. The number of return engagements which she has won in recent years on some of the most discriminating courses of the country is an indication that she is growing in fame and favor and her art is deepening and widening. Her appearance here in the future insures an artistic treat

**GERMAN FLAGS CAPTURED BY FRENCH.**



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These colors, taken in the battle of the Marne, are on exhibition in the Chapelle des Invalides in Paris.

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