

Humorous.

Plain Enough.

I am looking up and down,
Up and down, through the town,
For a little house to dwell in,
A shelter and a nest;
But though the buds are swelling,
And the springs from earth are well,
I cannot find a place for my rest.
—Rose Terry Cooke.

If you had paid the rent,
Up and down, every cent,
For the little house you dwell in
Week on week,
Though buds might swell and swell,
And the springs from earth up well,
You'd quickly get the little place you seek.
—Louisville Courier-Journal.

At the Races.

Friday night, about half an hour before midnight, a very respectable Detroitier living on Duffield street was heard feeling all over the front door to find the knob. His wife suddenly pulled the door open, confronted him, and in a file-like voice inquired:
"Isn't this a nice state of affairs—you not home since morning?"
"Sho'tly, darling, sho'tly," he replied, trying to take her hand. "I've zhust got back fr'm zhe races."
"What races?" she demanded.
"H o r s e races," he slowly replied, "Had big time an' made fever hunderd dollars. Goin' to get you fourteen silk dresses."
"Well you should have sent me word," she remarked as she hung up his hat. The promise of the dresses acted like magic on her imagination.
"Yes, but didn't have time," he replied, "Fe'r come 'long in buggy, an' off I went. Ju ever she h o r s e race, Mary?"
"No, I never did."
"Well, she's big thing, tell you. I never saw such'r magnificent sight my life. Now, ju'r magin I am a h o r s e, and you are the string."
"I won't do it—I'm no string!" she exclaimed.
"Well, alzer right. Sposen both of us are horses, then."
"I won't do that either. I never saw you look and talk as you do to-night. I believe you have been drinking."
"Zhat's so, Mary—drunk shixty-four glasses lemonyade. Well, all the horses got away in fine style. Noble sight, I tell you. I bet five hunderd dollars on head horse."
"That was sharp in you," she replied, mentally resolving to have four blue, five brown, and five green silks.
"You bez it was," he went on, "Well the head horse kept ahead, an' I won five hunderd dollars."
"Half of which, my ducky dear, you intend to give me?"
"Noz hardly my dear."
"Why?"
"You doan't understand er rules of er race coarse, my darling," he explained. "Er rule is if you win five hunderd dollars on first race you lose it all and two hunderd more on next one."
"And do you mean that you are two hunderd dollars out of pocket?" she squeaked.
"Zaas what I mean, my-darling."
"Don't darling me, you old drunkard! she howled, and the policeman under a tree across the way says the hat-rack went over, the door was kicked shut, and amid the groans and howls that arose he could hear a voice crying out:
"Lez up on me darling, lez go my hair! I gave the fel's my note for the two hunderd dollars, an' he can't git a cent!"

An Economical Female.

Yesterday morning the female head of a family living on Henry street called at a Woodward avenue grocery and asked for prunes.—Some prunes were exhibited and she inquired:
"Do you warrant them?"
"We do."
"Perfectly fresh, are they?"
"Indeed they are."
"No worms in them?"
"Not a worm."
"Full weight, are they?"
"Full weight, madame."
"Sweet, are they?"
"I warrant them sweet."
"No pits in them?"
"Not a pit."
"And a prize package with every pound?" she asked, after a pause.
"Yes, madame."
"And a chromo too?"
"Yes, and a chromo, too."
She nibbled at a prune, knit her brow, and finally asked:
"Don't you give a cash premium with every pound you sell?"
"We do, madame; you pay ten cents for a pound of prunes, and get a chromo, a prize package, and a cash premium of fifty cents.— Shall I do you up a pound?"
"Well, it seems as if you wanted to be fair with your customers," she slowly replied; "but I guess I won't take any. Seems to me ten cents per pound is rather too much, for prunes these times, when butter is down, and calico is down, and shoes are awful cheap."
At a late military dinner, one of the visitors proposed a toast: "May the man who has lost one eye in the service of his country never see with the other!" but the person whose duty it was to read the toast, by omitting the word distress, completely altered the sentiment, and caused much merriment by the blunder.
When a young lady stretches out a pretty little hand and asks you to undo her glove for her, isn't she exercising an undo influence on your feelings?
The baby's little game—Bawl.

It Got Monotonous.

Six or seven days ago an old man entered the store of a Detroit hardware man, who also deals in seeds, and inquiring for the proprietor soon stood face to face with him.
"Want to see me?" asked the dealer.
"Yes, sir, I do! Seven years ago this coming spring I bought a paper of cabbage seeds of you."
"I presume so."
"I'll swear to it, sir! Seven years ago, sir, and not one of those seeds came up."
"Well, that's funny," laughed the dealer. "You may think it was," said the old man, "but I'll make it cost you ten thousand dollars! When you sold me those seed, sir, you did not know that you were dealing with a lion!"
"Well, you stop your blowing and get out of here!"
"Give me a package of cabbage seed, sir."
"I won't."
The old man went away but in an hour returned and said in a loud voice:
"Seven years ago this coming spring I bought a package of seed at this store. Not one of those seeds arose from the soil!"
He was ordered out and went out. He was there the next morning as soon as the proprietor and said:
"Seven years ago this coming spring you sold me a package of seeds. Not a single seed matured to manhood."
He was put out that time; but he returned in the afternoon, when the store was full of customers, and exclaimed:
"Seven years ago this spring I was swindled by that man there! He sold me a package of garden seed, not one of which ever thrived."
When he went out something hit him three or four times in the back. He went down the street for a while, and then returned and stood in front of the store, and said to the people who passed:
"Seven years ago this coming spring this store here sold me garden seed that never sprouted."
He said the words over and over until a crowd began to gather, when he was called in, and given a dozen papers of seed, and told to "forgive and forget."
"Six papers of onion seed to pay for the choking," he said as he buttoned up his overcoat.
They were given him and when stowed away he remarked:
"Six papers of cucumber-seed to pay for four kicks."
After some argument they were handed him, and as he backed out of doors, said:
"It's all right! You've acted like a man about it, and if you want any vegetables next fall I'll make a reduction to you."

A Patriotic Jury.

Mr. Charles M. Lee, was a well-known criminal lawyer, of Rochester, New York.
He summed up a case with a superfluency of gesture and an affluence of perspiration, that would have astonished even John Grant-am in his vellement and melting moods.
Lee was defending an old Revolutionary soldier for passing a forged promissary note for some \$50.
There was hardly the faintest doubt of his guilt, but Lee contrived to get before the jury a fact that the accused, when a dare-devil of 19, was one of the storming party that followed Mad Anthony Wayne in his desperate assault upon Stony Point, and helped to carry the wounded general into the fort during that terrible fight.
In summing up, Lee after getting over the ugly points of the evidence as best he could, undertook to carry the jury by eschape, on the ground of the prisoner's revolutionary service.
He described in graphic language the bloody attack on Stony Point, the impetuous valor of Wayne, the daring exploits of his client, and wound up with this stunning interrogatory:
"Gentlemen of the jury, will you send to the State Prison for passing a contemptible thirty-five dollar forged note, an old hero of three score and ten, who, in youth, cheered the heart of his country, in the darkest hour of the revolution, by storming Stony Point?"
This was a poser.
The chins of some of the jury quivered, but the foreman, a bluff farmer, put on an air which seemed to say that storming Stony Point was a good thing enough in its line, but what had that to do with passing that forged note?
After being out a couple of hours, the jury returned, when the clerk went through the usual formula:
"Gentlemen of the jury, have you agreed upon a verdict?"
"We have."
"Do you find the prisoner at the bar guilty or not guilty?"
"Not guilty because he stormed Stony Point!" thundered the stalwart foreman; who it was afterwards learned, was last to come to the agreement.
The audience applauded, the crier rapped to order, the district attorney objected to the recording of the verdict, and the judge sent the jury out again, telling the foreman in a rather sharp tone, that they must find an unconditional verdict of guilty or not guilty.
After an absence of a few minutes the jury returned, when the foreman rendered a simple verdict of not guilty, adding, however as he dropped to his seat:
"It was a good thing, though, judge, for the old revolutionary cuss, that he stormed Stony Point!"
"Are you going to make a flower bed here, Judkins?" asked a young lady of the gardener.
"Yes, Miss, them's the orders," answered the gardener. "Why, it will quite spoil our croquet-ground."
"Can't help it, Miss; them's your pa's orders. He says he'll have it laid out for horticulture, not for husbandry."
A western settler—The contents of a six-shooter.

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