A SONG OF CHEER.

re many will tell you: "The best has ving for under the

leaf car when these croakers come

adily at it and be of good cheer.

inhaled ft you'll never despair! still upward and onward each day, love it!" at last you will say. deaf car when the croakers come With face toward the summit, oh, be of good

Think not for a moment all songs have been

There are found

Ther

But si

eaf ear when the croakers appear; on live it and be of good cheer. liam S. Lord, in Chicago Record.



[Copyright, 1894, by Emily S. Howard.] "What hast thou done, Peppino?" Peppino does not answer. "Speak, Peppino," urges again the riest. "The Holy Virgin cannot for-ive thee, if thou refusest to confess ny sin."

hy sin." "Reverend father," falters the man, trembling and shivering with cold, but not from the damp and chilly atmos-phere of the cathedral, with its granite pillars and marble floors. The shep-herd of the Goman Campagna is accus-tomed to the drenching rains that wet him to the skin as well as the burning rays of the sun.

rays of the sun. Peppino has east off the coarse round cloak in which his shivering form was wrapped. Prostrated before the con-fessional, he clutches convulsively the

ional, he clutches convulsively the of the priest. Reverend father, I—" Speak, Peppino; was it thy neigh-s chattel?"

bor's chattel?" The shepherd shakes his head with proud disdain. To aid him in the difficult task the aged priest winds his arm leindly around the sturdy shoulders of the man at his feet. "Speak," he urges again, "was it the knife, Peppino?" Peppino nods his head. "Who was thy vietim, my son?" The shepherd whispers: "Count Lu-dovico Purziano." An expression of horror passes over

An expression of horror passes over the priest's pale face. "Count Ludo-vice Porziano, for whose slayer the Carabinieri have been hunting the mountains for the last three years?" "It is he."

"It is he." Peppino smiles grinply, as he reveals his handsome teeth behind a black mustache, ' He seems proud to have confessed a secret which the arm of the king has vainly sought to ferret out.

the king has taining out. "Count Ludovice Porziano! A most pious gentleman! Peppino?" exclaimed the priest. "A pious gentleman, he? Corpo di Bacco-a very pious gentleman, in-

Bacco deed!"

"Is it thus you rue the sin, Peppino?" "Forgive me, reverend father! He had stolen my sweetheart, and would have fared no better at another's head!"

"Peppinol" "The provocation was great, rev-erend father, yet this very day on my before me sweltering in his blood, and I knew nothing that could rid me of the horrible night-mare but a confes-sion of the deed!" "My son, sincere repentance will ap-pease the most gruesome ghosts, and



ASKEI HER FOR A DRINK OF WATER. le confession assures you ab-Come, tell me how it hapan humble confess

pened!" "Hear me then, reverend father! She was a lovely child, searcely seventeen years of age. Sweet and tender, and as pure as the Madonna. Signor, her eyes were as clear as the light of the moon, and her soul as white as the mountain snows. She had promised to be assuring. Use father was a pensant was a lovely child, scarcely seventeen spears of age. Sweet and tender, and as pure as the Madonna. Signor, her woon, and her soul as white as the mountain snows. She had promised to he my wife. Her father was a peasan of the Campagna, who lived at Formel-lo. One day, as I drove my goats to pasture, I saw her standing near the fountain, with her long, black hair

nd a new pack was called for. brought in the fresh cards still r unopened wrapper. Well, the I haid eyes on the cards a horri-picion seized me—horrible when hope for achievement when all of the suspicion setzed me—horrible when the suspicion setzed me—horrible when you consider that we were all friends you consider that we were all friends offered, I curefully examined my cards. "A long time before 1 had found it necessary, during a lawsuit, to study thoroughly the systems of marking cords. There are several of these, and when you have mastered them it is an each erath of marked erads any where. So I knew for a dead certainty that I could detect the cheat, if there when end any non-the sone how, in spite of re-

SEASON'S

N. S.

1. 11 2 / 2 L

pack. So I v got two kings em. There v

a) of it, the cards were marked! "Saturally I was very angry; and my first impulse was to dash down the cards and denounce the players. When I thought of the situation, we two young chaps decoyed in there to be cheated out of the little money we had by young fellows like ourselves, whom we met socially and frequently, whom we had entertained in our own towns-I almost bolled over. Such a dastardly bit of basiness! I am furious yet when I think of it. "However, I took a few minutes to

bit of business! I am furious yet when I think of it. "However, I took a few minutes to think over the matter, and presently a beautiful scheme of vengeance dawned upon me. I set out to find out the system on which this particular pack was marked. It was obviously a very simple one, and I knew that the minute 1 got on to it I could tell every eard in the pack. The two kings had each a petal off the rose in the left-hand corner on the back. As soon as I got two queens together I examined them and found that each had two petals off the same rose. Then I was dead on to the system and there prom-ded on to the system and there work were of course ignorant of my knowl-edge.

edge. "The situation was pregnant. Here was Bolton, who was gently keeping out of it, and to whom, therefore, it was unnecessary to convey any warn-ing; here were three young rascals de-



IN PAROXYSMS OF LAUGHTER berately laying themselves out and etting up a game to fleece two inno-ent comrades; and here was I, know-og the whole trick beforehand, and

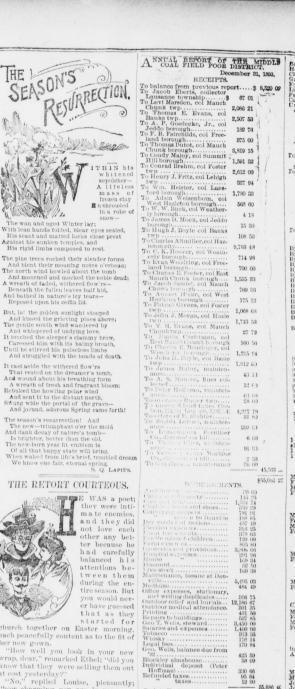
biggest sort of enge. The point was this: Whenever they and the set of the set of the set of the set of the my hand and in the 'missy' and so the set of the set of the set of the set of the the set of the set of the set of the set of the term in, and when one of them could at me I simply stayed out. There re always two of them in, of course, to decoy me; so I stood to win every e.

And when I dealt I took care that Eustac

time. "And when I dealt I took care that they should see neither my hand nor the 'missy.' Consequently I knew all their cards and they only knew each other's and the game was entirely in my own hands. I had a dead sure thing. If you had seen those men look at each other! I was not to be buffed out or lured in unless the cards war-ranted it and I won struckt along of ocurse. I had them hard and fast; they were helpess and could not understand it at all. Sideglances of inquiry be-came open astonishment and length-ened, with their faces, into pure dis-may. They were the most sold men I vere sav, get not daring to stop, and uncertainly fearful of me. Rats in a trap were enfranchised eitizens com-pared to them. They could do abso-tiety nothing but play on and lose their money. It was their suggestion, you see, it was fun, I teil yon. "Well along about midnight, Arnold was strapped, and borrowed of Hoek ing and by four in the morning they were all cleaned out and I had Merrili's 1 O U for forty dolars. "Next morning I woke up Bolton

"Next morning I woke up Bolton early and told him. He was in bed and rolled off in helpless paroxysms of langhter about the floor. He had seen the whole thing of course far bet-ter than I had and he simply rushed back to Barrie to tell the story. He was a capital story teller and for years afterward my appearance in Barrie was the signal among a certain set for pro-longed laughter.

Not much! far better joke as it she'll want.



Cash in Hazleton Nat'l Bank, Dec. 31, 1898. OUT DOOR RELIEF AND BURIALS.

ink O'Donnell.

Thomas J. Moore, 1 9. C. Kershner, 189 Patrick Givens, 189 Charles Altmiller.

Frant B. Fairchild, 1893. John H. Boyle, 1803. Condy Brehin, 1893.

r burials, lower district... relief, burials, middle district... relief, burials, Luzerne " relief,

at cost yesterday?" "No," replied Louise, plensantly; "how charming you are in your new hat. I declare, it is quite as becoming as it was last year." "Thanks. Eastace likes to see me in purple-it just suits me, he says." "How odd: He tells me that he hates it-says it is such a showy, vulgar color." "Why, there goes Eastace now, with that horrid Miss Rocks! I suppose she snapped him up on his way to my house." onso." "Yes-or mine. Shocking, the way me girls try to attract a man." "Isn't it? She might know that ustace does not care for her money." "Yes: I could tell her a thing or Ames Brady,

two." "And I could tell her much more..." "Don't get excited, dear; it ruins yôur complexion." "Oh! Have you seen the Easter num-ber of the Lollipop?" "No."

hurch together on Es

SO

two

"No." "Eustace sent me a copy. He has a perfectly lovely sonnet in it, "To Her Bonnet," which, he confesses, was written for me. Come over and see it." "Thanks. I shall be interested in it; because..."

"Thurses" because—" "It is very nice of you to say so," "It is very nice of you to say so," "Yes, dear," she ginned significant-ly at her corsage bouquet, "because I am sure that it was with the money he got for that somet that he bought me these lovely roses." After that, conversation flagged a hitle

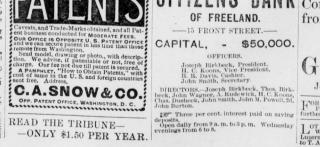
little Her Easter Bonnet.

Her Easter Bonnet. Wisdom cannot be altogether a mat-ter of experience, else why should one married man understand feminine hu-man nature so much better than an-other? Here, for instance, is a dialogue overheard by a reporter for the New York Press: "I haven't seen your wife out lately, Mr. Goodheart." "No, she keeps at home these days." "Is she ailing?"

"Is she alling?" "No. The fact of the matter is, a week ago I took home two of the hand-somest bonnets I could find in town, and toldher she might have her choice between them. She has been busy day and night ever since trying to make up her mind, and was as undecidbetween day and night even make up her mind, and was an ed as ever when I came away the morning." "You ought to help her out of her di-"You ought to help her out of her di-"taw can I?" "taw can I?"



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