

to redeem them in gold, although they would of course be obliged to redeem the bank notes in gold if demanded. But it would not be nearly so easy to draw gold from the treasury as at present. As the revenues of the government increase and the legal tender and other paper obligations of the government are paid off, they could be withdrawn from the treasury and a corresponding amount of bank circulation canceled and returned to the banks. This plan provides for a gradual change of the basis of circulation from the government securities to the capital and assets of the banks as provided in the Baltimore plan when the government notes are redeemed. It will be seen that as the government notes are withdrawn from circulation and deposited with the treasurer as the bank notes are issued, there would only be a small increase in the amount of money in actual circulation. In considering the question of currency circulation it must be remembered that the actual money is only a small part of the actual circulation represented by bank credits and that an increase in money does not represent a real increase in circulation if it lies locked up in bank vaults. It is only when there is a demand for it in business and it circulates freely that there can be a large increase in the real capital of the people—bank credits. Any issue of fiat money or an inflated currency will only result in speculation, an increase in credits, and when the reaction comes and liquidation sets in, the result will be a panic greater than the last in proportion as the inflation of the currency has been greater. It is reported that the president will recommend, in his message to congress, some plan for change in the currency system; but it is doubtful whether he will recommend either of the plans suggested by the bankers association.

#### A PERTINENT QUERY.

The Husband—Yes, it is true; I used to think you an angel; but now—

The Wife—You don't?

The H—Well—

The W—Oh, don't be afraid to tell the truth. I know I am not an angel. If I were one, I wouldn't be keeping house for you. What would you be doing with an angel?

You don't need to register in order to vote in our cash contest.

#### BEHIND THE SCENES.

It was at a little dance. She was sitting just outside the conservatory door, and she started as he greeted her.

"Why Ned is it you? I didn't hear you come up. I've been having such fun watching a pronounced flirtation."

"Indeed, but I haven't had an opportunity yet to congratulate you on your engagement with Jack Bittersweet."

"And yours to Miss Marigold was announced the other day. Is she here to-night?"

"Yes, but she won't let me stay with her much—says it has such a premature Darby and Joan look."

"That's just what Jack says. He won't make me conspicuous by his attentions in public. He never looks at another girl, though."

"And Ethel does not flirt at all although she is so beautiful."

"Yes. O, I'm having great fun! Don't look, but there's a couple partially screened by that palm; I can only see the back of her head and one of her shoulders; what a flirtation they are having!"

"How absurd; it is such bad form to flirt in public, too."

"Awfully. Do tell me what Miss Marigold is wearing to-night. She has such exquisite taste in dress."

"I—why, really, I don't know—some kind of a—a light evening

dress, you know. The sleeves are large, I know, for she told me to be careful not to crush 'em."

"Really, Ned, you will rival Worth one of these days!"

"Yes, and she's wearing La France roses. I never thought of sending them, you know, but she happened to say, never thinking, of course, that she hoped I wouldn't send her red ones, as her gown needed pink ones. Lucky, wasn't it?"

"Very. Don't look—a man can never see anything without looking directly at it—but the man behind the palm is kissing her hand, and O, what a blaze of jewels it is."

"What a joke! They think they are unobserved. Ethel's only fault is her fondness for diamond rings. It costs a fellow a lot of money."

"I suppose so. Now Jack says my hand is too well shaped to be loaded with jewels. Loverlike; isn't it?"

"Very. There is your Aunt Jennie; she seems to be looking for some one."

"For me. She has been for half an hour; she brought me to-night. I suppose she is sleepy. I've had such fun watching that pair that I've hidden from her. Their heads are very close now."

"What a pair of idiots. Just engaged, no doubt."

"Very like. But Jack and I would not make such an exhibition for the worlds."

"Nor Ethel and I; she would be horrified."

"Why, Aunt Jennie, is that you? I was just coming to the card room to look for you."



Beenthere—When do you expect your wife home from the country?  
Hardluck—The first night I got drunk.

"I thought you would want to go home, my poor child, so—"

"O, I was in no hurry, Aunt Jennie; I had such great fun watching—"

"I am glad to hear it. It shows your good sense! Many a girl in your place would be wild with jealousy after the way Jack has been flirting all evening behind that palm with that horrid Ethel Marigold! If you are quite ready now we will go and get our wraps." She was ready.

#### IMPRESSIONS.

The touch of a hand, the  
glance of an eye,  
Or a word exchanged with  
a passer-by;  
A glimpse of a face in a  
crowded street  
And afterwards life is in  
complete:

A picture painted with honest zeal  
And we lose the old for the new ideal;  
A chance remark or a song's refrain,  
And life is never the same again.

An angered word from our lips is sped  
Or a tender word is left unsaid,  
And one there is who, his whole life long,  
Shall cherish the brand of a burning wrong;  
A line that stares up from an open page,  
A cynic smile from the lips of age,  
A glimpse of loving seen in a play,  
And the dreams of our youth are swept away.

A friendly smile and love's embering spark  
Leaps into flame and illumines the dark;  
A whispered "Be brave" to our fellow-men  
And they pick up the thread of hope again.  
Thus never an act or a word or thought  
But that with unguessed importance is fraught,  
For small things build up eternity  
And blazon the way for a destiny.