



Relics

A little box with tear-stained lid  
Beneath which many things lie hid.  
And often when the twilight's gloom  
Paints memory faces o'er the room,  
I leave the world of toil and care,  
And seated in the old arm chair,  
I open the lid and fondly gaze  
Upon the things of other days.

A little box with tear-stained lid  
Beneath which sacred things are hid.  
A little shoe out at the toe—  
O, baby boy, I loved you so—  
A tiny cap with upturned brim  
That eloquently speaks of him—  
These are the treasures laid away  
To gaze upon at close of day.

A little box with tear-stained lid  
Beneath which treasured things are hid.

A broken top, a toy, a whip,  
A crippled ox from Noah's ship;  
A tiny stocking—all the wealth  
That men secure by work, or stealth,  
Would not suffice to buy from me  
One thing I ope the lid to see.

A little box with tear-stained lid  
Beneath which love worn things are hid.

As long as Death's dark angel roams  
To lay a blight on happy homes,  
Full many a box will hide away  
The relics of a happier day;  
And when the evening's echos call  
Upon their lids hot tears will fall.

Called Down

Mr. Stonyfeller—"I do not believe  
a lie is ever justifiable."  
Mr. Cynics—"Nor do I. By the  
way, Mr. Stonyfeller, your wig is not  
on straight."

Successful

"Codgers must be getting awfully  
rich."  
"What makes you think so?"  
"His memory is becoming fright-  
fully poor."

Elasticity

"This talk about the need of a more  
elastic currency makes me tired."  
"How's that?"  
"When a fellow has to spread a  
nine-dollar-a-week salary over the  
needs of a family of five it strikes me  
that elasticity is not the greatest  
need."

Many Reasons

"What reason did Codgers give for  
ignoring the order of the court?"  
"He gave none but he has about a  
hundred and fifty million."  
"A hundred and fifty million rea-  
sons?"  
"Yes. Each one preceded by a dol-  
lar mark."

An Ear of Corn

A few weeks ago this department  
referred to the queer fact that an  
ear of corn always contained an even  
number of rows of kernels, and asked  
if any of the boy and girl readers  
of The Commoner could explain why  
this is true. Several explanations

have been offered, but so far none has  
been correct.

Sometimes—in fact very frequently  
—the number of rows will differ, but  
always there is an even number. This  
did not "just happen." There is a  
reason for it, and what this depart-  
ment wants to know is, can any  
reader give the reason. Do not waste  
time looking for an ear of corn with  
an odd number of rows, but get to  
work trying to discover the reason for  
the even number. Cut an ear of corn  
crosswise in the middle and study the  
end, for right there lies the secret  
of the whole thing. Who will be the  
first to find the reason? When you  
think you have found it, write it out  
and send it to "Missouri," care The  
Commoner, Lincoln, Nebr.

Nothing To Say

The workingman who stood charged  
with contempt of court, having vio-  
lated an injunction forbidding him to  
address a fellow workman, was or-  
dered before the bar.

"Have you anything to say why  
sentence to jail for sixty days for  
contempt should not be passed upon  
you?" queried the irate and offended  
judge.

"Nothing at all," replied the pris-  
oner. "I'm no Standard Oil magnate,  
and although they say that money  
talks all that I have wouldn't make  
an audible whisper."

Trembling with wrath the offended  
justice ordered the workingman into  
the donjon keep.

Failed

"I understand that your theatrical  
venture was a failure."

"Yes, I made several mistakes right  
at the start."

"What?"  
"I devoted all my energies to get-  
ting good people and a clever play,  
but I overlooked the trick scenery,  
the horse race, the sawmill, the  
threshing machine and the steamboat  
explosion."

Deceived

"Johnnie, this is the third time you  
have come to history class unpre-  
pared. Have you any excuse to offer  
for not having your lesson?"

"Yessum. I'm a victim of misplaced  
confidence."

"Explain yourself, Johnnie."  
"A few days ago I heard pa say  
that 'history repeats itself,' but I  
waited for it to repeat itself for me,  
but it won't do it."

His Mission

Mr. Goodheart—"Your mission as  
an editor is a high one. To you it is  
given to conserve the morals of the  
community, to uphold the—"

Editor Village Slopicks—"O come  
off! I don't make my money by print-  
ing good things, but by refraining from  
printing scandalous things."

The Hypocrite

"I am a public benefactor," said the  
Great Manufacturer, leaning back in  
his upholstered chair and putting his  
patent leathers on the mahogany desk.  
"Yes?"

"To be sure I am. I have builded  
here a model factory. From a sani-  
tary standpoint it can not be ex-  
celled. The ventilation is superb, the  
lighting is scientific, the toilet facili-  
ties unsurpassed, the most modern  
machinery is installed, and I also pro-  
vide library facilities and a lunch  
room. What more could I do?"

"You might pay wages that would

enable your employes to live."  
"But what interest is that to me.  
My responsibility ends when the six  
o'clock whistle blows."  
The Great Manufacturer puffed con-  
tentedly at his perfecto, little reckon-  
ing that Retribution was listening.

Brain Leaks

Pleasure is doubled by division.  
The wise parent is always a press  
censor.

Will & Must hold a mortgage on  
success.

A bird on the hat sings no songs  
of welcome to spring.

Some people who pose as cynics  
are only cheap mimics.

Matrimony and parsimony are not  
conductive of harmony.

Cheeropathy is a school of medicine  
that does not issue diplomas.

Only the foolish give themselves  
cause for regretting twice the same  
action.

A whole lot of foolish men think  
that fun depends altogether on what  
it costs.

Charity begins at home, but if it  
is the real brand it soon outgrows its  
native place.

There is something wrong about the  
father who is not a hero in the eyes  
of his little ones.

There are thousands of children  
yearning for the caresses that are  
wasted on worthless dogs.

We have seen men who continually  
boasted of their business honesty  
while keeping one eye on the sheriff.

We can not blame a man for being  
unwilling to go home early in the  
evening when the children are all  
away.

When a man tells you that he would  
like to have his faults pointed out to  
him, do not do it if you value his  
friendship.

When all of the pretty little home  
ornaments go into the daughter's  
room the son is very apt to look for  
his pleasant things down town.

Has any one ever been able to ex-  
plain why a schoolboy is always most  
interested in his lesson just when it  
is time to do the evening chores?

UNCLE JOE HAS "MANNERS"

Speaker Cannon, umbrellaless,  
slopped up the walk to the White  
House executive offices in a down-  
pour this morning. A dozen feet  
down the drive he stooped and care-  
fully wiped his wet and muddy shoes  
on the wetter and muddier grass and  
emptied a pint of water from the brim  
of his hat. Then he stepped inside  
with the complacent conviction that  
he had been properly neat.

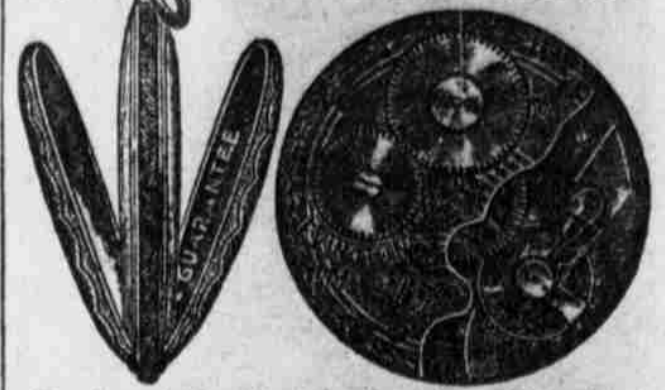
"If I had had an umbrella when I  
left my house to walk up here," said  
Mr. Cannon to a friend and colleague  
whom he met in the lobby, and who  
gloved, umbrellaed, galoshed, mackin-  
toshed, scarfed and gaitered, was still  
cussing the weather, "I wouldn't have  
it now. The umbrella habit would be  
mighty expensive for me."

Then Uncle Joe went in to see the  
president to pay his respects.—Wash-  
ington correspondence New York  
World.

TWO DECISIONS

It is somewhat difficult to determine  
which of the supreme court decisions  
is the most desirable. That decision  
of the supreme court of Colorado  
which holds that ballot boxes may  
be opened to permit of stuffing, or the  
decision of the supreme court of New  
York which holds that ballot boxes  
cannot be opened after they have been  
stuffed.—Longmont (Colo.) Times.

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