

For the Scrap Book

MAKE A BLUFF

If there isn't any pleasure
Waits for you beside the way,
If there's not a thing to grin at
In your journey day by day,
If you've got excuse for kicking
And for stirring up a row,
Don't you do it! Don't you do it!
Just be happy, anyhow.

Just be happy, just be happy;
Take the fiddle and the bow,
Snuggle it against your shoulder,
Limber up and let her go,
Till the world is full of music
And there's joy in every string,
Till you get all outdoors laughing
And you make the echoes sing.

It's a duty you are owing
To the world to shake your feet,
And to lift your voice in singin'
Till the music fills the street;
If the world is dark and gloomy
And you haven't got a friend,
It's your duty to dissemble,
It's your duty to pretend.

If you meet the world a-grinnin',
Then the world will grin at you.
You can laugh the clouds to flinders
Till the blue sky glimmers through;
If you just pretend you're happy,
With your whole heart in the bluff,
Then, almost before you know it,
You'll be happy sure enough!
—Houston Post.

OF MYSELF

This only grant me, that my means may lie
Too low for envy, for contempt too high.
Some honor—I would have,
Not from good-deeds, but good alone;
The unknown are better than ill known;
Rumor can ope the grave,
Acquaintance I would have, but when 't depends
Not on the number but the choice of friends.

Books should, not business, entertain the light,
And sleep as undisturbed as death, the night.
My house a cottage more
Than palace; and should fitting be
For all my use, no luxury.
My garden painted o'er
With Nature's hand, not Art's; and pleasure yield,
Horace might envy in his Sabine field.

Thus would I double my life's fading space;
For he that runs it well twice runs his race.
And in this true delight,
These unbought sports, this happy state,
I would not fear, nor wish, my fate;
But boldly say each night,
Tomorrow let my sun his beams display,
Or in clouds hide them; I have lived today.
—Abraham Cowley.

THE LASS BENEATH THE BONNET

When the triumphs and the conquests of the heart
are counted o'er,
When they tell of love that flourished in the days
of nevermore,
When they weigh the charms of loving and the
amours dwell upon,
Round whose tender recollections music echoes,
roses run;
When the world has worn one weary with its
flameur and its flash,
With its chain of charming maidens carrying
hearts with sweep and dash,
Then a vision looms before me and a song sounds
sweet and low—
Ah, the lass beneath the bonnet that I loved so
long ago!

The old-time striped sunbonnet, where she used to
hide her face,
The sweet, old-fashioned lilacs that she carried
with such grace,
The curls that used to dangle where her shoulders
sloped so sweet,
The little schoolgirl figure with its touch of grace
petite,
The little checkered apron and the skirt of High-
land plaid—
Ah, the vision makes me merry and the echo makes
me sad,
For through tides of time that flow not another

lass, I know
Has smiled beneath a bonnet as she smiled so
long ago!

Time may take me far from mem'ry of that
schoolhouse on the hill,
The little woodland byroad that dipt down across
the rill,
The fairy fields of fancy where two sweethearts
pledged their vow,
But I would that I could travel back to wonder
of it now—
Back to all that world of marvel when the valor
of the knight
Burned a spark within my spirit that her lips
had helped to light,
And I'd face the dragon for her, let befall or weal
or woe,
Just because beneath her bonnet she had loved
me long ago!
—Baltimore Sun.

VICTORY

I met a kingly figure on the road,
The cool, green road of peace that has no end.
I asked with eager haste, "Who art thou? Speak!"
He answered, "I am Grief Endured, thy friend."
—Reader Magazine.

THE PRIMARY PLEDGE

L. M. Bell, Centerburg, Ohio.—I take pleasure
in enclosing primary pledge. It seems a very
simple and easy matter for me to sign this pledge
for it is one I have always kept. With best wishes
for the success of the cause.

J. M. Postwood, Grant, Ky.—Herewith please
find thirty-six signers of the primary pledge.

Lorenz Obert, Spartansburg, Pa.—I enclose
herewith fifteen signers to the primary pledge.

M. L. Fontenot, Pine Prairie, La.—Herewith
find primary pledge with twenty signatures. This
is about all the democratic voters who vote at our
polls.

As this copy of The Commoner may be read
by some one not familiar with the details of the
primary pledge plan, it is necessary to say that
according to the terms of this plan every democ-
rat is asked to pledge himself to attend all of
the primaries of his party to be held between now
and the next democratic national convention, un-
less unavoidably prevented, and to secure a clear,
honest and straightforward declaration of the
party's position on every question upon which the
voters of the party desire to speak. Those desiring
to be enrolled can either write to The Commoner
approving the object of the organization and ask-
ing to have their names entered on the roll, or
they can fill out and mail the blank pledge which
is printed on page 12 of this issue.

SPECIAL OFFER

L. P. Custer, St. Louis, Mo.—I hereby enclose
postoffice order for \$4.50 to cover seven renewals
and one new subscription. This is the second
group I've sent in since the first of the year and
makes a total of fifteen. I have carried this list
with a few changes since the first issue of The
Commoner.

Each of the following have sent in five yearly
subscriptions: J. A. Blanchard, Berkshire, N. Y.;
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