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October 13, 1894

Through bright sunshine and stormy weather
For fifteen years we've walked together,
Sweetheart, you and I.
Hand clasped in hand through all the days
We've helped each other on life's ways,
'Neath clear or gloomy sky.
And on this day your presence cheers,
O sweetheart of those fifteen years,
Just as it did that autumn day
You started with me on life's way.

Though time has brought us much of sorrow
We've held our faith in bright tomorrow,
Sweetheart, you and I.
And though deep grief has brought the tears
We look back on the vanished years
With more of smile than sigh.
And though we both have older grown
With years that o'er our heads have flown,
To me you're still the trusting maid
That walked forth with me unafraid.

The fleeting years their cycles turning
Have kept our youthful lovelights burning,
Sweetheart, you and I.
And now, dear one, we backward gaze
Upon those long departed days
Where treasured mem'ries lie,
And heart to heart and hand in hand
Upon the future's threshold stand,
And with our hearts free from all fears
We look toward e'en brighter years.

Through bright sunshine or stormy weather
For fifteen years we've walked together,
Sweetheart, you and I.
And 'round our knees our children play
When shadows mark the close of day,
And evening hours go by.
Dear one, as down life's ways we pass
You e'er will be the sweet-faced lass—
The little sweetheart—blythe and gay,
Of fifteen years ago today.

Rover

His last effort was to raise up and wag his bushy tail when his little master plaintively called him.
Rover was only a dog—a big Scotch collie—but he was the idol of the Littlest Boy's heart. He never harmed a living thing in all his short life. He watched his little master like a mother, and when the Littlest Boy's feet carried him across the street, Rover was sure to be alongside, watching to see that no evil came upon the sturdy youngster.
The first we noticed anything wrong was when Rover tried to drag himself up on the front porch. It was poison—administered by the hand of some wretch whose heart held no regard for little boys or friendly dogs. It was too late, for Rover died in agony, although his bushy tail wagged feebly, and the fast-glazing eyes looked devotedly upon the tear-wet face of the Littlest Boy who bowed above him.
And now a little boy wanders aimlessly about calling for his pet, for

the Littlest Boy does not yet understand what death is, and as his plaintive call sounds through the house we slip outside and think harsh things of the heartless wretch who brought so much sorrow into the Littlest Boy's life.

Some day the Littlest Boy will realize what death means, and then he will recall the loss of his beautiful dog companion and he will have lost faith in mankind.
Some of these days sorrow will come into the life of the man whose hand administered poison to Rover, and when it comes we trust it will be as keen as the sorrow he brought into the life of an innocent little boy. We may be wrong in our belief, yet we believe that Rover will show up on the day of final accounting, and his splendid devotion to his little master will weigh heavily in the balance against the man who killed him.

Accent, not Vocabulary

This little incident, and a true one, is for the benefit of those who labor under the impression that they can not express their sentiments without resorting to profanity:

Tom Hinde is a Missourian who can, when occasion offers, put up a pretty fair sample of sulphurous language, but once upon a time there came to pass a moment when the mildest kind of words from his lips expressed more than all the profanity attributed to our army in Flanders.

Tom, together with Charley Zook and Tom Curry, was fishing for cropple in Big Lake, and was startled when he discovered that he had hooked a big channel cat. He had a light rod and a small line, and it required unusual skill to play the big fish and not lose him. But Tom was equal to the occasion. Round and round the boat the big fish circled, and Tom played him with a master hand. Finally the fish, tired out, came gently floating up to the side of the boat.

"Get him, Charley!" gasped Tom.
Zook reached over the edge of the boat, wrapped the line a couple of times around his wrist and gave a jerk—with a result that might have been expected. The line broke and away scooted the big catfish to freedom.

Zook and Curry leaned back in the boat and waited for Tom to express himself.

With a look upon his face that no artist, living or dead, could ever catch, Tom dropped down upon his seat and exclaimed in a heartbroken tone of voice:
"O, Charley!"

"That was the most profane accent I ever heard coming from a man's lips," said Curry when he told the story.

Suspicious

"I've made up my mind that Topperly is not a man to trust."

"What made you come to that conclusion?"

"Well, he had the last chance at fish stories when a crowd of us met yesterday, and he didn't tell the biggest one. That fellow is playing a mighty deep game, I tell you."

Lottery Note

"What did you draw in the government land lottery in South Dakota? I see you went up there."

"I drew a draft on my wife so I could get money to get home on."

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