# The Commoner

# VOL. 15, NO. 1

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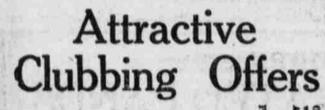
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# Whether Common or Not

#### The Old Men

The old men beat the youngsters, And they are some surprise; The old men with the laughter Of the young dreams in their eyes.

The old men sing the gladdest, The old men dance the maddest,

The old men won't be laid aside, Because they're swimming with the tide,

As young as all the youngsters!

The old men win my heart each time, And how I love to praise them;

They season songs of life with rhyme,

And troubles never fease them. The old men trust the longest, The old men dream the strongest,

The old men live in dreams, indeed,

But, ah, what tender cause and need.

And it's hats off from the youngsters!

The old men love the sweetest And they can tell it best;

The old men with undying dreams That lead to lovely rest.

The old men whistle sweetest, The old men waltz the neatest,

The old men headed for the stars,

With heart's love to their avatars, The blithe, brave, smiling youngyoungsters!

-Baltimore Sun.

#### No Songs Like Old Songs

The author of "Only a Pansy Blossom" is dead. He was an Iowa man named Frank Howard and his pathetic ditty netted him a fortune. 'Only a Pansy Blossom" was being played and sung to the extent of almost being a nuisance some twentyfive years ago. Mr. Howard also wrote "When the Robins Nest Again," another big song success that was whistled and sung and warbled into a threadbare extent and contrib. uted comfortably to Mr. Howard's worldly means. They have quit writing songs with the punch of "Only a Pansy Blossom." The ragtime stuff about "a big black coon who liked to spoon with that yellow gal in the light of the moon" has supplanted the pansy blossom variety. While it generally is contended that the world is growing better. there are some departments in the scheme of the universe that have not 1.15 1.40 been improved .- Burlington Gazette. 2.00

been having some fun the last few days. Thursday we autoed to the Country club, golfed until dark, then strolled back to town and danced until morning." The country cousin was not to be stumped in the least, so he began telling some of the pleasures of the simple life: "We have had pretty good times here, too. One day we buggied out to Uncle Ned's and went out to the back lot, where we baseballed all afternoon; in the evening we sneaked up into the attic and pokered until morning." A sturdy old farmer who was listening, not to be outdone, took up the conversation at this point, and said: "I was having some fun about this time myself. I muled to the cornfield and gehawed until sundown. Then I suppered until dark and piped until 9 o'clock, after which I bedsteaded until it was time to go cake."-The Continent. muling again."-Cass County (Mo.) Leader.

#### Fixing the Blame

A teacher, instructing her class in the composition of sentences, wrote two on the blackboard, one a misstatement of fact and the other wrong grammatically. The sentences were: "The hen has three legs," and 'Who done it?"

"Harry," she said to one of the youngsters, "go to the blackboard and show where the fault lies in those two sentences."

Harry slowly approached the board, evidently studying hard. Then he took the crayon and wrote:

"The hen never done it. God done it."-Milwaukee Journal.

#### The First Time He Saw

The senator and the major were walking up the avenue. The senator was more than middle-aged and con-

to let his books leave his house, Some weeks later the same neighbor sent over to ask for the loan of Mark Twain's lawn mower.

"Certainly," said Mark, "but since I make it a rule never to let it leave my lawn you will be obliged to use it there."-"Stories and Toasts," by N. C. Fowler, Jr.

#### Located

"What," inquires Luke McLuke, "has become of the old-fashioned pink sea shell that used to repose on the old-fashioned whatnot?" - The last time we saw it, Luke, it was still reposing on the old-fashioned whatnot in the southeast corner of the cellar .- Springfield (Mass.) Union.

#### And He Did!

Father (left in charge)-"No, you can not have any more cake. (Very seriously.) Do you know what I shall have to do if you go on making that dreadful noise?"

Little Boy (sobbing)-"Yes."

Father-"Well, what is it?"

Little Boy--- "Give me some more

When Dad is All Right

He may wear a greasy hat and the seat of his pants may be shiny, but if a man's children have their noses

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#### The Lord Needs Help

A certain preacher, in one of the southern states, was preaching away one Sunday night, when a fire alarm broke the attentive stillness of the sanctuary.

"Sit still!" he cried to his disturb-3.00 3.30 ed congregation. "If there is a fire  $1.20 \\ 1.90$ the Lord will take care of his own and not let anything happen that 1.60 shouldn't." 1.25 2.65

Just then two children, who had stepped outside, shrieked: 1.80 1.75

"Oh, it's the parsonage! It's the parsonage!"

Without a word of farewell that preacher made a wild bound from the pulpit and struck out for his burning residence.

"They is times, it seems," said a lean member of the congregation, "when th' Lord needs he'p." - National Monthly.

#### Had All Been Going Some

as the major loved him, he also loved his joke.

The senator turned with a pleased expression on his bening countenance and said: "Major, did you see that pretty girl smile at me?"

"Oh, that's nothing," replied his friend. "The first time I saw you I laughed out loud." — Philadelphia Sale. C. C. Buckingham, Houston, Tex. Public Ledger.

#### This Helped

"I was speaking with your father last night," he said at last, somewhat inanely.

"Oh, you were?" answered the sweet young thing, lowering her "Er-what were you-ereyes. talking about?"

"About the war in Europe. Your father said that he hoped the fighting would soon be over."

The sweet young thing smiled.

"Yes," she remarked, "I know he's very much opposed to long engagements."-Cleveland Leader.

## No Cause for Tears

"We have never had a president named Charlie," remarks the Toledo Blade. Nor to the best of our knowl. edge have we ever had one who was called Reggie or Algernon, but we can't see that the fact is calculated drpaint. It comes in the form of a dry to move any one to salty tears .--Philadelphia Inquirer.

## Mark Twain's Retort

Mark Twain once asked a neighbor A city man recently visited his "country cousin." The man from the city, wishing to explain the metropol-itan life, said: "We have certainly his library, but he hed read them in her for the said full information showing you by the said is the said information showing you her the said the s

BROTHER - Accidentally discovered root cures tobacco habit and indigestion. Gladly sent particulars. W. Stokes, Mohawk, Fla.



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itan life, said: "We have certainly his library, but he had a rule never write today.