

OLD FAVORITES

The Courtin'.
God makes such nights, all white an' still
Fur 'z you can look an' listen,
Moonshine an' snow on field an' hill,
All silence an' all glisten.

Zekle crep' up quite unbeknown.
An' peeked in thru' the window,
An' there sat Hubby all alone,
'th no one nigh to hinder.

A fireplace filled the room's one side
With half a cord of wood in—
There warn't no stoves (till comfort died)
To take ye to a puddin'.

The wa'nut logs shoot sparkles out
Towards the postiest, bless her,
An' little flames danced all about
The chiny on the dresser.

Agin the chimney crook-necks hung.
An' in amongst them rusted
The old queen's-arm that gran'ther
Young
Fetched back from Concord busted.

The very room, coz she was in,
Seemed warm from floor to ceiling,
An' she looked full ez rosy agin
Ez the apples she was peelin'.

'Twas kin' o' kingdom-come to look
On such a blessed cretur,
A doggone blinshin' to a brook
Ain't molester or sweeter.

He was six foot o' man, A J,
Clear grit an' human natur',
None couldn't quicker pitch a tou
Nor dror a farrer straighter.

He'd sparked it with full twenty gals,
Hed quered 'em, danced 'em, druv 'em,
Fust this one, an' then that, by spells—
All is, he couldn't love 'em.

But long o' her his veins 'ould run
All crinkly like curled maple,
The side she breathed full full o' sun
Ez a south slope in Ap'l.

She thought no vice hed sech a swing
Ez his in the choir,
My! when he made Ole Hundred ring,
She knowed the Lord was nigher.

An' she's bluish scarrit, right in prayer,
When her new meeting bunnet
Felt somehow thru' its crown a pair
O' blue eyes set upon it.

'That night, I tell ye, she looked some!
She seemed to 've got a new soul,
For she felt sartain-sure he'd come,
Down to her very shoe-sole.

She heard a foot, an' knowed it tu,
A raspin' on the scraper—
All ways to once her feelin' flew
Like sparks in burnt-up paper.

He kin' o' filtered on the mat,
Some doubtle of the sekle,
His heart kep' gold' pity-pat,
But hern went pity Zekle.

An' yet she gin her cheer a jerk
Ez though she wished him furrer,
An' on her apples kep' to work,
Parin' away like murder.

"You want to see my pa, I s'pose?"
"Wall—no—I come da signin'!"
"To see my ma? She's sprinklin'
clo'es

Agin to-morrow's f'in'!"
To say why gals act so or so,
Or don't, 'ould be presumin';
Mebby to mean Yes an' say No
Comes nateral to women.

He stood a spell on one foot fust,
Then stood a spell on t'other,
An' on which one he felt the wust
He couldn't ha' told ye nuther.

Says he, "I'd better call agin;"
Says she, "Think likly, mster!"
The last word pricked him like a pin,
An'—wall, he up an' kist her.

Then ma bimby upon 'em slips,
Hubly set pale ez ashes,
All kin' o' snailly round the lips
An' teary round the lashes.

For she was just the quiet kind
Whose naturs never vary,
Like streams that keep a summer mind
Snowhid in Jenouary.

The blood clot round her heart felt glued
Too tight for all expressin';
Tell mother see hoy matters stood,
An' gin 'em both her blessin'.

Then her red come back like the tide
Down to the Bay o' Fundy,
An' all I know is they was cried
In meetin' come nex' Sunday.

—James Russell Lowell.

MONUMENT TO ST. CLAIR.

Daughters of the American Revolution
Wish to Honor His Memory.
The Daughters of the Revolution,
who have done so much permanently
to mark historic spots in the country,
are now once more agitating a movement
to honor fittingly General Arthur
St. Clair by placing a handsome monument
over his grave. This is a proper
move, says the Philadelphia Inquirer,
not because St. Clair deserves to be
honored above others who are still
without monuments, nor because he
was a great general or administrator.
He should be honored because in a
peculiar way he was connected with our
history for a very long period. He
was one of the first of "typical Ameri-
cans."

Born of a wealthy and titled house
in Scotland, he entered the army and
served in the "French and Indian war"
under Wolfe. Settling in the Ligonier
valley, he became one of the wealthiest
and most enterprising of our Western
citizens. He served throughout
the war for independence and, though
a man of high qualities, he had many
most unfortunate experiences, though
he was officially cleared of any blame.
A close friend of Washington, he be-
came the head of the army, and after

all the advice about Indian warfare
given by Washington he was utterly
defeated by Little Turtle, involving a
disaster which it took years and an-
other Pennsylvanian to retrieve.

As member of Congress, Governor
of the Northwest Territory and soldier
he had much to do, and though nothing
that he accomplished shines
brightly in history, he was a man of
many parts and deserves recognition.
His fall came through his political con-
victions. A confirmed federalist, he
hated Jefferson, his superior, with an
intensity which he cared not to con-
ceal. He used his high office to try to
make Ohio a federalist State by cut-
ting it down to half its present pro-
portions. In advocating this he used
language which Jefferson could not
overlook and was removed from of-
fice. This was his fall, from which
he never recovered, though he lived
long. Losing his property, he con-
ducted a log-cabin hotel while trying
to get the State and Congress to re-
cognize his just claims to compensa-
tion for property devoted to the ser-
vice of the country. He died at an
advanced age, embittered by his suf-
ferings and the alleged injustice done
him while he saw mediocre men gain
prominence and power.

He died in the belief that the coun-
try was going to ruin, largely induced,
no doubt, by the fact that his own
services had been rejected. He was,
with all his limitations, a man of mer-
it, though perhaps he is known better
as the man who made Washington
swear than for anything else. The
outburst of profanity on the part of
Washington, continues the Inquirer,
when he heard of the disaster to the
Western army is declared by the only
auditor to have been almost fiendish
in its vigor and sulphurous character.
However, Washington recovered his
equanimity and is loved none the less
because he was very human with all
his wisdom.

MILLIONS FOR A MUSEUM.

**New National Structure Will Cost an
Immense Sum of Money.**

Plans have been completed for the
new \$3,500,000 structure that is to be
erected for the National Museum in
Washington. The regents of the
Smithsonian Institution are superin-
tending this work, and it is their idea
when the new building is completed to
have a complete rearrangement of the
exhibits now in the National Museum
and the Smithsonian Institution build-
ings.

The new structure is to be devoted
to the scientific collections of the gov-
ernment, the present National Museum
building to the industrial arts and the
old Smithsonian building to the Smith-
sonian and National Museum library
and art collections. The regents pro-
pose that the scientific collection in the
new building shall be the finest in the
world, and an officer of the institution
makes the statement that already
many of the branches to be covered
have reached a perfection that is not
equaled in any other museum in the
world, even the great British museum.

The chief subjects to be covered are
biology, anthropology, geology, zoolo-
gy, botany and American history. The
present National Museum building will
be given up to a great exposition of
industrial art, including the already
immense and unique collection of the
museum, and many additions that the
regents are planning to secure as rap-
idly as possible. The museum will be
modeled in its scope and general plan
after the Victoria and Albert Museum
of Great Britain. Among the chief
departments will be those of land
transportation, boat models, imple-
ments of war and electrical apparatus,
of which the museum already has rich
collections.

The plans for the Smithsonian build-
ing contemplate the creation in time
of a magnificent library and art gal-
lery. The scientific library of the in-
stitution is already one of the finest
in the world. Its scope will be broad-
ened and it will become a much more
important unit in the general scheme
of the institution. The plans for the
art gallery are as yet tentative. The
new structure will be 480 feet long
and 345 feet broad, with a height of
four stories.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Passing of Osage Hedge.

The osage hedge which brier thou-
sands of Illinois farmers are gradually
disappearing. This hedge, introduced
a half century ago by Professor J.
B. Turner of Jacksonville, became very
popular, and for many years was a
favorite fence, not only with farmers,
but with lot owners in the smaller
towns, and with the railroad com-
panies.
The high price of fence posts and
lumber made the osage an economical
fence, also, and in spite of its faults
it gradually became extensively used.
It held its own until wire fencing ap-
peared. Then it became evident that
the osage was doomed. Wire fencing
was more effective, was cheaper, took
up less room and required less care.
The railroads began grabbing up their
hedges and substituting wire. The
farmers followed their lead, and where
there used to be miles of hedge there
are only rods of it now.

The osage is still used for wind
breaks, but owing to the fact it is in-
jurious to vegetation near it is be-
coming a "bad idea" it will probably
soon be abandoned entirely.—Chicago
Inter Ocean.

Future of the Mississippi Valley.

If the Mississippi valley were as
densely populated as the seaboard it
would have 35,000,000 inhabitants.

LITERARY LITTLEBITS

Mr. Morley's "Gladstone" is prom-
ised for Oct. 2. A number of portraits
will accompany the text.

Jacob A. Riis has written "The
Fell and the Preservation of the
Home." It is to be published by
George W. Jacobs & Co. of Philadel-
phia.

The five conspicuous novels last
season were written by Gertrude Ath-
erton, Edith Wharton, Charles Major,
Frank Stockton and Mary Johnston.
They were all five historical in subject
and all five written by Americans.

Turkey is "looking up" as the pro-
vider of literature. Poetry, short stories
and novels are coming out in rapid
succession and some of these works
are to be translated into French. Ach-
met Midhat is mentioned as the most
popular novelist.

Webster's Spelling Book holds the
sale record. In the thirty-five years
during which D. Appleton & Co. pub-
lished this book 31,155,000 copies were
sold, and in one year, just after the
emancipation of the slaves, 1,506,000
copies were sold.

The forthcoming volume of McMas-
ter's "History of the American Peo-
ple," which D. Appleton & Co. will
issue in the fall, has an important
monograph on President Jackson, for-
tified with many letters and hitherto
unpublished material.

The prevalent interest in the race
problem has this season added three
novels to the list of negro books—"The
Leopard's Spots," "Handicapped
Among the Free," and "The Inevita-
ble." The three authors take varying
views and paint their pictures in vivid
colors.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co. are to pub-
lish "The Flower Beautiful," being an
illustrated volume by Clarence Moores
Weed. It is said to be the first book
dealing purely with the decorative use
of flowers, an art in which, according
to the author, the Japanese have been
pioneers.

How Methodism may be said to have
begun in Susanna Wesley's nursery,
rather than in the University of Ox-
ford, so often called its birthplace, is
one of the fresh and interesting points
made by Professor C. T. Winchester in
his papers on "John Wesley," printed
in the Century Magazine.

F. Hopkinson Smith styles his new
book "The Under Dog." It consists of
thirteen stories, chiefly of men and
women who have been misunderstood.
The Scribners say that in fashioning
them the author's sense of the dram-
atic and the picturesque is united with
an idealized justice and a serious pur-
pose.

The just issued index, edited by Sid-
ney Lee, of the monumental "Dictio-
nary of National Biography," is not only
an index—it summarizes briefly the
wealth of information given in this
vast work, so that leading facts may
be found in a moment, while precise
references to volume and page guide
the reader quickly to the fountain head
of details.

"The Call of the Wild" is the title
of Jack London's Klondike story, to be
issued by the Macmillan company. It
is said to show a long advance over
even the best of Mr. London's pre-
vious work and to combine human in-
terest and adventure. It is the same
story as Ernest Seton Thompson's "Bl-
ography of a Grizzly," except that hu-
man beings enter into it more largely
as actors in the drama.

David Gray in his "Gallops" estab-
lished the horse as a member of so-
ciety. In his "The Braybrook Baby's
Godmother" one of the Century's many
stories, even the baby who gives title
to the tale plays a part subordinate to
the foxes and the drags whose wrongs
a charming New York woman tries to
right. For Miss Cushing, never having
visited a menagerie, thought of drags
as small animals needing a champion
to save them from cruel fox-hunters;
and David Gray's story tells the lud-
icrous adventures into which her im-
perfect knowledge and righteous zeal
led a household of guests.

Where Pulque is Drunk.

The pulquerias of the City of Mexi-
co are a unique feature of the life of
that country that never fail to catch
the eye of the tourist and attract the
attention of visitors," said A. S.
Chewning, of El Paso, Tex., "There
are nearly a thousand such places, and
they dispense many carloads of pulque
every day. These pulque shops are
open every day in the year, and sur-
prisingly present a picturesque appear-
ance. The walls are decorated with the
most extraordinary pictures, representing
bull fights and prize fights.

"The extraction of the pulque from
the stems of cacti is done by hollowing
out a sort of cup in one end and letting
the sap flow into it, which it does very
quickly. Then it is emptied into a
gourd, which is carried to the pulque
dealer. A plant will yield from three
to ten gallons. Every pulque shop in
the City of Mexico has a name pecu-
liarly its own, such as 'Delights of
Life,' 'The Smile,' 'The Character,' 'The
Hope,' 'The Rainbow,' 'The Image of
Jesus,' 'The Inspiration' and a lot of
others of a similar nature. Pulque
when taken in large quantities is in-
toxicated. It forms the principal
drink of the Mexicans, and is a thin,
whitish fluid, with the odor of some
milk."

EDITORIALS

OPINIONS OF GREAT PAPERS ON IMPORTANT SUBJECTS

About Appendicitis.

APPENDICITIS is no new disease. An examination
of an Egyptian mummy over 2,000 years old, showed
that death must have been caused by that illness.
But although the disease occurred thus early, it was
probably never frequent until the latest decades. Three
of the London hospital reports give the number of appen-
dicitis cases treated in 1890 as 58, while in 1900 nearly 400
operations were performed. It is comforting to note that
all but 10 of the patients recovered. Sir Frederick Treves,
the most noted authority on the subject, has performed
successfully more than 100 consecutive operations. It is
said that appendicitis may be caused by imagination, but
modern foods are probably responsible for most cases,
according to Dr. H. C. Howard, of Champaign, Ill. Until
the trade demanded an exceedingly white flour the disease
was rare. Where coarse breads were used the disease
was unknown, as in rural communities, where people se-
cured their flour from small, old-fashioned mills. The mal-
ady did not increase until the smaller mills were crowded
out by the larger ones and the farmers had to buy the fine
flour. Southern negroes, as long as they ate corn bread,
were exempt. Germans had appendicitis little or not at all
until they began to eat our new-process flour. Dr. Howard
says that prior to 1875, in twenty-five years' practice among
the people of this section, he did not meet with more than
forty cases. Now they are common. Very small children
are sufferers. A boy had thirteen well-defined attacks, but
came through all without an operation. After changing his
food to corn bread and coarse breads in general, fruit,
vegetables and very little meat, he had no further trouble.—
Springfield Republican.

The Labor Problem.

IT will be strange if the many and powerful influences
which are now so actively engaged in the solution of the
labor problem upon an equitable basis should result in
failure. Some of the best minds of the country are now
considering the question more seriously and earnestly than
they have ever done. It will be commonly recognized that
this activity is not only desirable, but necessary. The dis-
ensions of capital and labor are unusually numerous, and
some of them are being fought out with both determination
and bitterness. There are obvious causes for the exist-
ing conditions in the labor world. One is the conviction of
labor that it is not receiving a fair share of the wealth
which it contends it creates. Another is that the cost of
the necessities of life has been so largely increased during
the last three or four years as to render an advance of
wages essential to comfortable living. It is not bread,
fuel and shelter alone that labor demands as its due; it asks
that its children of tender age shall be sent to school, not
to the factory or mine, to the end that they may have a
chance to achieve such material success as education as-
ures or promises. Labor similarly demands that it shall
be paid something over and above the price of comfort-
able living; it wants a wage from which a portion can be
put by for the proverbial rainy day and for old age, in
which no man can work, but still must live.—Philadelphia
Ledger.

Jewish Immigration to Palestine.

JEWISH immigration to Palestine continues apace
under the auspices of the Alliance Israelite, which
alone spends 1,000,000 francs a year on the Hebrew
colonies and schools in Turkey, and other philanthropic
societies. The latest phase of this migration, known as the
Zionist movement, has for its object to revive the Jewish
State by purchasing Palestine from Turkey. The move-
ment, though condemned by some as Utopian, and ridiculed
by others as sentimental in origin, possesses considerable
interest for the unprejudiced observer of Eastern affairs.
No one who has watched its growth can doubt its practical
importance.

Although the Sultan is not prepared to grant all that
Dr. Herzl demanded, there is sufficient ground to believe,
with Dr. Herzl, that the negotiations will most probably,
at no distant time, lead to a conclusion satisfactory to the
Sultan and the Zionists alike. This hope is strengthened by
the Sultan's attitude toward the Jews, which in its benevo-
lence contrasts curiously with the treatment meted out to
his Christian subjects. Two years ago, he appointed mem-
bers of the Hebrew community to important posts in the
Turkish army, while he attached two more to his personal
entourage. On another occasion his Majesty evinced a
lively interest on behalf of the same race whose good re-

ORIGIN OF THE VICTORIA CROSS.

Thursday, Jan. 29, is the anniversary
of the institution of the soldier's most
precious decoration—perhaps the most
precious decoration in the world—the
Victoria cross, for it was instituted by
Her Majesty, the late Queen Victoria,
on the 29th day of January, 1856, and
so is not quite fifty years old. While
it is most prized of all the decorations
and orders an Englishman can win, it
is also the most democratic decoration
in the world, for, although it is the
official badge of an act of personal
courage and daring, it has no concern
with rank, long service or wounds, and
it may be worn by one who has been
only a few months or weeks in the
army, while others who have spent
their lives in the service and gained
rank and other decorations may not
possess it. It may be worn by a pri-
vate soldier or a field marshal, and on
the roll of the heroes' names are to be
found almost every rank in both the
services, for the winning of the cross
is possible to any one, as it was grant-
ed "as a reward for conspicuous brave-
ry or devotion to the country in the
presence of the enemy," or as the in-
scription upon it records, "For Valor."
The Victoria cross had its birth dur-
ing the Crimean war, when Queen Vic-
toria felt that some recognition of the
personal daring and heroism of her sol-
diers in that terrible struggle was
needed. The royal warrant clearly lays
down the conditions under which the
cross may be won, but the whole of
them may be summarized in the one
sentence, "For conspicuous bravery or
devotion to the country in the pres-
ence of the enemy."

There are not many who are unfa-
miliar with the appearance of the
cross, but for the benefit of those who
have only seen it in photographs or
pictures, it may be said that it is a
six inch and a half wide and has in the
obverse center a crowned lion, under-
neath which is an escroll bearing the
words, "For Valor." It is attached to
a bar on which is a spray of laurel
leaves and is suspended by a broad rib-
bon, which is blue for the naval ser-
vice and dark red for the military.
Both the cross and the bar are made
from bronze which formerly formed
part of some of the Russian guns cap-
tured during the Crimean war, and
complete with the ribbon and pin
weighs just under an ounce, or 432
grains, to be exact. It is engraved with
the name and regiment of the recipi-
ent, as well as the date on which he
won it, and as soon as this is done it
is dispatched from the makers to the
sovereign to bestow upon the hero.

It is strange to have to record that
the first Victoria cross was won by a
sailor, for it has come to be looked
upon as almost entirely a military de-
coration, yet such is the case—and it
is still stranger that the deed which gain-
ed it was performed a year and seven
months prior to the institution of the
decoration. Another feature is that at
the time of winning it he was a boy
serving his time as a midshipman on
board H. M. S. Hecla, and the story
of how Charles Davis Lucas, now an
admiral, won the cross as a midship
will always form one of the most glorious
stories among the many in its history.
It was at the bombardment of Bomar-
sund, in the Baltic, on June 21, 1854,
that a live shell dropped in the midst
of a group of men of whom young
Lucas was in command. The fuse was
almost burned away, and an explosion
seemed imminent, but without a mo-
ment's hesitation the young midship-
man sprang forward, grasped the sput-
tering shell in his hands and, rushing
to the side of the vessel, hurled it over-
board, where it exploded before it
reached the water. Such an act as this
displays the sublimest courage, for it
combines intelligence and instantane-
ous action, and in a boy it was espe-
cially meritorious, and so young Lucas
was chosen as the first recipient of the
decoration eighteen months afterward.

pute was sullied by one of the blood accusations period-
ically brought against the Jews by the Christians of the
East, and caused the local authorities to take steps to
prove its groundlessness, thereby earning the thanks of the
Anglo-Jewish Association.

Perhaps it is to this increasing favor of the Jews in
the eyes of the Sultan, and the consequent fear of opposi-
tion to Russia's designs in Palestine, that we must attribute
a step lately taken by the Russian government. The Min-
ister of Finance is reported to have forbidden the sale of
the Jewish Colonial Trust shares in the (Czar's) dominions,
a step which has created great perturbation in the camp of
Polish Zionists, the most deeply interested in the concern.—
Edinburgh Review.

The Age of Political Success.

OF the members of the House of Representatives ap-
proximately two-thirds had when first elected reached
or passed the age of 40 years. What an amazing con-
trast is presented by the British House of Commons,
where, according to the Springfield Republican, only two
members out of 670 were past 40 when elected!

How does that contrast affect Mr. Cleveland's "key of
success," as furnished by determination, persistence and
courage?

The typical success in American politics is won by a
man who has shown himself in some degree possessed of
those qualities and who in business or in a profession has
commanded attention.

The typical British success is won by a bright young
man not long out of an expensive university, who is rich
enough to sit in Parliament without pay. Sometimes be-
cause of his ability, oftener because of family influence, he
is selected by party leaders to "make the race" in a district
frequently far from his home, where all assistance possible
is given to enable him at least to seem to understand the
issues of the campaign.—New York World.

Cost of Ocean Speed.

WHAT it costs to increase the speed of a ship by
one knot has lately been determined with great
accuracy in the steam trials of the British ar-
mored cruiser Cape of Good Hope. On her full-
power trial this vessel, of 14,100 tons displacement, attain-
ed a mean speed of 23.05 knots an hour. By the speed
curves plotted from the trial results, it appears that to go
from half speed—11.55 knots—to full speed—23.05 knots—
needed, roughly, 26,000 additional horse power, of which
the last knot alone absorbed 8,251 horse power. In other
words, to increase the speed of this cruiser from 22 to 23
knots consumed as much power as was needed to propel
her at 16 knots; or, to put it in still another way, the power
required to propel her at full speed would have propelled
two vessels of the same size at an average speed of 19 knots
an hour. At full speed her coal consumption was 26 tons
per hour; at 19 knots it was about 11 tons per hour. This
means that at full speed she would move 85 knots for each
ton of coal burned under her boilers, while at 19 knots
the distance would be doubled for the same coal con-
sumption. This illustrates very clearly the price paid for
high speeds afloat. Applying the ratios thus established
to steamers of the Atlantic merchant fleet, it will be readily
understood why the "greyhounds" earn more applause than
dividends.—New York Times.

As to Growing Old.

A FOREIGN writer undertakes to answer the question
as to whether it is sad to grow old, and treats the
subject most felicitously. He says the art of grow-
ing old is a difficult one, but he asks if the under-
standing how to be young is not difficult also, a question
that will readily find an affirmative answer. It is the
same with the possession of wealth. Do the rich know how
to be rich? Even as to health, the secret of graciously
bearing health is as difficult to acquire as that of carrying
off gracefully illness. Yet nothing can be finer than a
placid and amiable old age. This writer remarks that
"one of the most beautiful things in the world is an old
person who, made better by experience, more indulgent,
more charitable, loves mankind in spite of its wretchedness
and adores youth without the slightest tendency to mimic
it. Such a person is like an old Stradivarius whose tone
has become so sweet that its value is increased a hundred-
fold, and it seems almost to have a soul." This "adoring
youth without the slightest tendency to mimic it" is a fine
touch indeed.—Boston Herald.

Photography Betrayed Him.

Speaking of baseball, says the Phila-
delphia Telegraph, there is a certain
resourceful young man in this town
who recently decided that the unfolding
of a championship pennant for the first
time in nineteen years was an event
not to be passed over regardless. He
is a clerk and his office hours are
from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. Last Wednes-
day morning he failed to appear at his
desk. Instead his employer received a
note, announcing his sudden and unex-
pected indisposition.

The young man was a faithful em-
ployee, and his employer was only too
willing to excuse him under the cir-
cumstances. On the day following the
opening game the clerk had entirely
recovered. As he entered his place
of business, the man who pays his
salary politely inquired after his
health. Receiving a satisfactory re-
ply, the employer remarked, casually:
"I hope you enjoyed the game?"
"What game?" queried the clerk.
"The Boston-Athletic baseball game,"
was the reply.

The young man was about to enter
a protest, when his employer handed
him a copy of a newspaper containing
a sectional view of the "bleachers"
at the ball park. It included a life-
like portrait of the recalcitrant clerk.
—Philadelphia Ledger.

As It Sounds.

Mrs. Newrich-Marle's trip abroad
has given her quite a smattering of
French.

Mr. Newrich (quietly)—Quite a
spluttering, I should call it.—Judge.