

Whether Common or Not.

The Silent Old Bell.

They have sent the Bell of Liberty to Charlestown on the Coast, Where the people meet and greet it with acclaim. And we touch it with devotion and we very loudly boast That it cracked while clearly ringing Freedom's name. Though its brazen lips are silent and its echo sounds no more, Yet we claim to understand just what it means: Equal rights and equal justice—on America's fair shore— But subjects in the far-off Philip-pines.

Yea, it cracked while ringing Freedom from a despot's iron hand, And the fathers cried with joy to hear the sound.

They foregathered 'neath their banner and they fought, a hero band, And their ebbing lifeblood hallowed Freedom's ground.

But we've gathered added knowledge of the meaning of the word— And forgotten Valley Forge and other scenes.

While they fought for rule of justice we are ruling with the sword In the name of Freedom, in the Philippines.

Read the old bell's quaint inscription! Would it be a waste of time? Would it tend to crush our lordly pomp and pride?

Is it well the old bell's silent? Is it well its mellow chime Rings no more the cause for which our fathers died?

Dare we send it on a journey 'round the world, from shore to shore, And proclaim to list'ning nations what it means?

Would it bring a peaceful dawning where the sullen rifles roar In the jungles of the far-off Philip-pines?

Take it back! 'Tis cracked and silent, and its lesson is forgot. Might, not Justice, is the motto we uphold.

Gleaming bayonet and rifle, cannon smoke and battle hot— Anything to garner in the land and gold.

Government by all the people! 'Tis for that our fathers bled— Died to give a freeman's right to you and me—

But the Brown Man! If he asks it we will fill him full of lead, For we need his islands in our busi-ness. See?

Equalized.

"Joe Chamberlain married an Amer-ican woman and I'll bet she helps h'im hold Von Bulow level."

"Yes; but Von Bulow married an American woman, too."

"Well, I'll bet she helps him hold Joe Chamberlain level."

The Slanderer.

Now of all the ills and curses, from the cradles to the hearses, the one we call the gossip is certainly the worst. And in every community, and at every opportunity, the vials of their slander they ne'er hesitate to burst. And their tongues are always clacking, though their stories have no backing, and they lie about their neighbors when the neighbors turn their backs. From the hours of early dawning they are lying, croaking, fawning, and en-

list the aid of Satan, who will cover up their tracks. Of our mothers, wives and sisters they will talk their tongues to blisters, and to smirch a reputation gives to them a ghoulish glee. If they set a soul to aching, or a heart succeed in breaking, they are filled with happy feeling to a very great degree. They will tear the lid from coffin, for their evil hearts ne'er soften, and they'll follow suffering woman to her last sleep in the grave. If the gossip e'er sees glory 'twill be like the man in story, who sneaked past the golden portals by an awfully close shave.

Defined.

"I've been reading Kipling's latest and I'd like to know what a 'muddled oaf' means."

"That's easy. It means the fellow who won't do all the fighting and let Rudyard do all the writing."

Kismet.

Her name was Annie Mehitible Jones. She changed it to Anye Mehytyle. She said she would marry a duke or a lord

Should eyther one ever be gyttable. But, alas, for Anye Mehytyle Jones There never came near opportunity; And now she is known as "Aunt Hettie" by all

The young people in the communyty.

Utterior Motive.

"Are you interested in scientific re-search along the line of longevity, sen-ator?"

"Indeed I am," replied Senator Graball. "I endeavor to interest the people in those matters. It serves to distract their attention from some schemes I am trying to work."

Horrible.

"It took three wedding ceremonies to get Chauncey Depew married."

"Suffering chestnuts! Does that mean we've got to listen three times to his telling of it?"

Modern Definitions.

Liberty—The right to make others obey.

Self-government—An hallucination. Obs.

Taxation—Something to be shifted. Constitution—Something to be avoided.

Wrecked.

"Poor man! What caused your aw-ful physical condition?"

"Please, mum. I'm de feller wot the health food inventors practiced on."

Styglan Humor.

"Why so pensive, George?" queried the shade of Washington, gazing quizzically at the shade of George III.

The shade of the departed king drew its spirit crown over its eyes and re-marked:

"I've been hovering over a few lit-

tle islands in the Pacific today, and what I saw has worried me."

"What did you see?"

"I saw some little brown men fight-ing your people for the same thing you demanded of me and got at the muzzle of your flint-locks."

"Well?"

"O, nothing; only I was wondering if something in the nature of an apol-ogy wasn't due me from you."

"What, apologize for doing right?"

"No," wearily replied the jaded shade of George III. "Merely apologize be-cause I was permitted to see what I saw today."

Excusable.

"I thought you said you would call your papa if I kissed you."

"I did, but I was so excited that I forgot it."

Folled.

"Tough luck Writerly had. You know he is always trying to pinch every dollar."

"Yes. What's happened to him now?"

"Married his stenographer for the purpose of saving her salary."

"What's wrong with that scheme?"

"It was a good scheme, but it didn't work. His wife says she won't let her husband dictate to her."

The Realistic Novel.

"I am writing a realistic novel."

"What is it about?"

"Well, the deacon does not get the best of the horse trades, the money-lender does not tear up mortgages, the heroine is not the loveliest girl in the county and the hero actually begins at the bottom of the business ladder and stays there."

Brain Leaks.

Tomorrow is the refuge of the in-dolent.

A dog's tail never deceives. All hypocrits are humans.

Some men have no idea of humor un-til they catch the itch.

True friendship does not care for a "card of thanks" in the newspapers.

It's a mighty good thing to be able to feel young while growing old.

Some men never think of the poor save when their own purses are empty.

Hustle wins the race while Wall is looking for a good place to start from.

Waves of reform are too often dashed to spray on the rocks of in-difference.

"I am suffering from a fit of abstrac-tion," muttered the editor as he clipped an editorial and forgot to credit it.

Too many people measure a man's success by what he gains instead of by what he deserves.

A great many people who are never late at the theatre have to be notified by bell that it is time for church.

Because a man does business next door to a bank is no sign he under-stands the financial question.

The average assessor in a corpora-tion ruled city would not make a good burglar. He could not find anything worth taking.

If while talking to you a girl makes fun of another fellow it is safe to put it down that she is in love with him.

—Will M. Maupin.

IS IT AN EPIDEMIC?

Vital Statistics Show an Alarming Increase in an Already Prevailing Disease— Are Any Exempt?

At no time in the history of disease has there been such an alarming in-crease in the number of cases of any particular malady as in that of kidney and bladder troubles now preying upon the people of this country.

Today we see a relative, a friend or an acquaintance apparently well, and in a few days we may be grieved to learn of their serious illness or sud-den death, caused by that fatal type of kidney trouble—Bright's disease.

Kidney trouble often becomes ad-vanced into acute stages before the afflicted is aware of its presence; that is why we read of so many sudden deaths of prominent business and pro-fessional men, physicians and others. They have neglected to stop the leak in time.

While scientists are puzzling their brains to find out the cause, each indi-vidual can, by a little precaution, avoid the chances of contracting dread-ed and dangerous kidney trouble, or eradicate it completely from their sys-tem if already afflicted. Many prec-ious lives might have been, and many more can yet be saved, by paying at-tention to the kidneys.

Every person should know the vital relation of the Kidneys—their proper functional action, etc.—to good health, the supreme blessing of human exist-ence. Therefore, all persons reading this advertisement, who have any symptoms of kidney or bladder trou-ble, are advised to write to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a free sample bottle of Swamp-Root, the cele-brated specific which is having such a great demand and remarkable success in the cure of the most distressing kidney and bladder troubles. With the sample bottle of Swamp-Root, Dr. Kilmer will also send a pamphlet and treatise of valuable information, if you will mention The Commoner when you write..

Treason.

It is now admitted even by those who voted for the measure that the house blundered in passing the Phil-ippine tariff bill. As the Inter-Ocean pointed out at the time, the Payne bill not only ignored all claims of the Philippines as American territory, but went further in tariff discrimination against our own islands than against any foreign country.—Chicago Inter-Ocean (rep.).

Credit For Croker.

Mr. Belmont, representative-non-elect for the Seventh district, accuses Mr. Croker of having given orders to the democratic leaders of the Seventh to "dig the life out of him" in the re-cent case of "Turkeys vs. Principle and Wash-Boilers vs. Conviction." He maintains that these orders of Mr. Croker were what defeated him.

While the World must modestly, but firmly, insist that it took a leading part in the work of excavation, yet it is only too willing to share the credit with any others who deserve it. And if Mr. Croker did give orders to "dig the life out of Mr. Belmont," he did not "use his influence directly against the democratic party," as Mr. Belmont charges, but directly in its behalf. For it is far better for the democrats of the Seventh district to have a repub-lican representative in congress than a democratic misrepresentative.—New York World.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup.

Has been used for over SIXTY YEARS BY MIL-LIONS OF MOTHERS for their CHILDREN WHILE TEETHING, with PERFECT SUCCESS. It SOOTHES the CHILD, SOFTENS the GUMS, ALLAYS all PAIN, CURES WIND COLIC, and is the best remedy for DIARRHEA. Sold by druggists in every part of the world. Be-care and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind. Twen-ty-five cents a bottle. It is the best of all.